



Lifestyle

Irish Stew an easy-to-make comfort food

A3



Sports

WHS cheerleaders are state champions

B5W



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MARCH 13, 2025

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16 PAGES



It's Pinewood Derby time!

Cub Scout Pack 136 recently held their annual Pinewood Derby and all of the scouts had the opportunity to race their cars against others in their dens as well other Scouts, leaders and parent cars. Top finalists will compete at the West Wind district-wide Pinewood Derby in a few weeks — Good luck to our Scouts!!!! Pictured are (l-r) Marvel Ramos, Oli Ramos, Carmella Labrecque, Matthew Smith, Oscar Poirier, Joey Malho, Logan Dorothy, Mason Labrecque, M.J. Dorothy, Thanh Huynh, Molly Brooks, and Brave Ramos. It is never too late to join Cub Scout Pack 136 and join in on the fun! For information, please call Frank West 978-658-1754 or email Troop136wilm@aol.com.

(Courtesy photo)

Planning Board continues requests

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Planning Board approved and continued various projects where appropriate at their March 4 meeting.

They approved a Form A request for 20 Oxbow Drive. Luke Roy of LJR Engineering stated that the applicant would not be creating any nonconformity. Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich confirmed that the fire and engineering departments reviewed and adjustments had been made to the plans.

Several projects were requested to be continued to April 1, including the definitive subdivision plan and stormwater management permit for Eagle-

view Drive; the 81G application and stormwater management permit for Safford Street; and the site plan review, stormwater management permit, sign special permit, and groundwater protection district special permit for 800 Salem St.

The board moved accordingly for all of these projects.

Roy also spoke for the site plan review, stormwater management permit and groundwater protection district special permit for 685 Main St. He shared that they provided a summary letter along with their revised plans and materials from last month. Some of the changes involved adjustments to the

PLANNING | PAGE A7W

Select Board discusses Planning Board articles

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Monday, March 10, the Select Board discussed the proposed warrant articles by the Planning Board for the annual Town Meeting and special Town Meeting to be held on May 3.

Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich described the articles that the Planning Board had put forward. The first would update the floodplain bylaw in order to comply with flood insurance law and allow residents to obtain flood insurance.

Some of these updates pertained to new maps, language, and technical requirements. They were also proposing that instead of review by both the Conservation Commission and the Board of Appeals, residents doing work in the floodplain

would only need Conservation Commission review and an administrative permit through the building department.

The next article would rewrite the bylaw for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) according to the Affordable Homes Act. This would allow up to 900 square feet as of right, with no requirement for owner occupancy, and it could either be attached or detached. Gingrich described the Planning Board considered including the current bylaw allowing one ADU up to 1,250 square feet without a special permit, but they didn't think allowing two would be popular among residents.

Gingrich then explained another article proposing language in the by-law specifically prohibiting short-term rentals for accessory dwelling units. She described

the desire to be clear in this regard considering the ADU edits, as the current language prohibited short-term rentals simply by omitting this from the permitted uses.

The Planning Board also put forward two articles related to the MBTA multi-family zoning as of right district, which was previously voted down at the special Town Meeting in December. Gingrich mentioned that the Milton case resulted in confirmation that the MBTA Communities Law is constitutional and can be enforced, but new deadlines were set for Feb. 13 for the action plan and July 14 for the zone to exist.

They wanted to bring these articles back to Town Meeting vote because the attorney general's office was confirmed with the ability to enforce the zone.

Chair Greg Bendel stated that while the Select Board was not unhappy with the vote in December, they did want to keep their options open regarding the HLC guidelines. He invited residents to attend the meeting on May 3 and let their voice be heard.

Lilia Maselli said she was still opposed to the multi-family zoning district proposal. She wondered what the purpose of bringing the zoning up again for a vote would be, especially if it doesn't pass at Town Meeting and then the attorney general chooses the zoning district area.

Town Manager Eric Slagle said that he expected the town to be part of a suit from the attorney general's office if noncompliant as of July 14, to be found in violation with the statute,

SELECT | PAGE A7W

Select Board discusses all Town Meeting articles

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Town Manager Eric Slagle provided a second overview of the proposed annual Town Meeting and special Town Meeting warrant for May 3 during the Select Board's March 10 meet-

ing. Where applicable, he included the proposed dollar amounts, though these would not appear on the warrant.

Slagle explained that article one would open the meeting and article two would allow reports from committees, although there were none yet. There also were no unpaid bills related to article three to be paid. Article four would authorize agreements to be signed with banks for the town. Article five contained the town budget.

Slagle then described that the capital plan was all part of article six, which

ARTICLES | PAGE A8W

Select Board approves requests for use of spaces

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Select Board approved many requests, took action, and received communications on their March 10 meeting.

To begin the meeting, chair Greg Bendel announced that the Wilmington High School cheerleading team won the Division 3 State Championships and congratulated the team and coaches.

Pike employee Alexander Marrero spoke at the public hearing for a request from Verizon to install one pole on Faulkner Avenue. He described that Verizon wanted to place a new standard pole on the western side of the street about 25 feet from the existing pole 17 so that they could upgrade that pole.

Gary DePalma asked to make sure that the pole was not yet installed,

which Marrero confirmed. Marrero also stated that there was no sidewalk on this side of the street whatsoever.

Bendel asked whether the neighbors were notified of the public hearing, and Town Manager Eric Slagle replied that they were.

As it was a public hearing, an audience member asked whether pole 17 would be redundant. The response from Marrero said that the new pole

is supposed to support pole 17 so that it can be upgraded and replaced, and after the service is transferred, they would remove the old pole.

Resident Kevin MacDonald asked if any drinking wells were in close proximity to the new pole. The answer simply stated that no neighbors brought concerns to the town's, Verizon's, or RMLD's attention.

SPACES | PAGE A7W

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Wilmington Library News:

Don't miss WML's Sunrise on the Reaping release party

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, March 18, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, March 19, 2 p.m.
Thursday, March 20, 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 22, 2 p.m.
Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, March 17, 6-8 p.m.
These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in.

Needleworkers

Friday, March 21, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy conversation and camaraderie. Drop-in.

Used Puzzle Swap

Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Stop by the Used Puzzle Swap on the first floor to pick up some new-to-you puzzles! We are now accepting donations of puzzles for the swap. Please note you do not need to donate puzzles in order to participate.

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, March 17, 10 a.m.
Join the Community Teamwork Family Resource Network for a community playgroup where they'll work on Early Literacy skills and much more! Ages 0-6, siblings welcome

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, March 18, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Preschool Storytime! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 3-6

Sunrise on the Reaping Release Party

Tuesday, March 18, 6 p.m.
Celebrate the release of the latest novel in the Hunger Games series at the library! We'll have trivia, snacks, and activities, as well as quiet places to read the book if you just can't put it down! We'll have a few copies to check out, and one copy will be given away as a prize.



▲ Calling all teens in grades 6-12! Join us at the library on Tuesday, March 18 at 6 p.m. to celebrate the release of Sunrise on the Reaping, the newest Hunger Games novel! Enjoy trivia, snacks, and fun activities, plus a chance to win a copy of the book. Don't miss out! (Courtesy photo)

Grades 6-12

Time for Twos

Wednesday, March 19, 10 a.m.
Time for Twos includes books, rhymes, music and movement for children aged 2! Age 2

Family Craft Night: Faux Stained Glass

Wednesday, March 19, 6 p.m.
Complete a craft together with your family! This month we'll be making faux stained-glass decorations! Ages 3+

Baby Time

Thursday, March 20, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Baby Time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 0-23 months

Manga Tryouts

Thursday, March 20, 3:30 p.m.
Have a say in manga purchased for the teen collection with this club! During each meeting, we'll sample 1st volumes of different manga and vote on whether it should be added to WML's collection. Grades 6-12

Playful Pathways: Measuring Success

Friday, March 21, 11 a.m.
This Construction and Building program will feature activities such as building the tallest tower out of a variety of supplies, play matching and memory games, completing puzzles and talking about all this construction! Ages 0-5

Switch It Up! Video Game Club

Friday, March 21, 3:45 p.m.
Love video games? Come to this once-a-month video game club to play Switch

games with friends! Grades 1-5

Music and More with Miss Bernadette

Saturday, March 22, 10 a.m.
Join Early Childhood Educator Bernadette Baird for singing, dancing, instrument play and storytime in this fun and relaxing family event! Ages 0-4

Additional Information

Keep Logging Minutes During Minute Madness!

Can you help Team WML out-read other Massachu-

setts libraries? From now until April 4, log your reading as we fight for a spot in the Minute Madness Championship. Last year we brought home the win — can we do it again? Register on Beanstack at www.wilmingtonlibrary.beanstack.com/reader365 or grab a paper log at the library!

Join us for the Annual Friends of WML Jewelry Sale!

The Friends of WML's Donated Jewelry Sale is back for 2025! This year's sale will be Friday, April 4th from 5-8pm and Saturday, April 5th from 9am-2pm. The Friends will be selling fine and fashion jewelry, including necklaces, bracelets, pins, rings, men's & kid's jewelry, and more! Please note: Friday will have timed tickets. No large bags or backpacks allowed. For more information, visit www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/about/friends/friends-annual-jewelry-sale.

Save the Date:

Thursday, May 8, 6:30pm

(The Fez Room at the Shriner's Auditorium)

Wilmington Memorial Library is hosting best-selling novelist Chris Bohjalian whose newest book The Jackal's Mistress comes out in March! This first event in our new offsite author series will feature a presentation by Mr. Bohjalian, book sales/signing, a cash bar, and light refreshments. Registration begins in late March.

Book Store Next Door

Regular hours are back at The Book Store Next Door! The bookstore is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

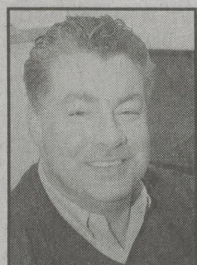
Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/services/mp.

WML In-Person & Virtual Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs and is required for all virtual programs, as you will need to register in order to receive the Zoom link. You can register on our website at www.wilmingtonlibrary.org or by calling (978) 658-2967.

Advertisement
It's Your Money
by Todd Brisbois



Change Your Address:
HOW TO
NOTIFY
THE IRS

If your address has changed, you need to notify the IRS to ensure you receive any tax refunds or IRS correspondence. There are several ways to notify the IRS of an address change:

When Filing Your Tax Return: If you change your address before filing your return, enter your new address on your return when you file. When your return is processed, we'll update our records. Be sure to also notify your return preparer.

Notifying the Post Office: If you change your address after filing your return, you should notify the post office that services your old address. Because not all post offices forward government checks, you should also directly notify the IRS as described below.

By Form: To change your address with the IRS, you may complete a Form 8822, Change of Address (For Individual, Gift, Estate, or Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Returns) and/or a Form 8822-B, Change of Address or Responsible Party — Business and send them to the address shown on the forms. For information on changing the "responsible party," see Form 8822-B.

In Writing: You may also write to inform us that your address is changing. Tell us you're changing your address by providing us your full name; old and new addresses; Social Security number; individual taxpayer identification number; or employer identification number; and signature.

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Firecracker 5K & Family Fun Run on June 26

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Fourth of July Committee would like to invite you to participate in this year's fifth annual Firecracker 5K & Family Fun Run on Thursday, June 26, 6:30 p.m. at the Wilmington Town Common! The race is part of Wilmington's 43rd annual Fun on the Fourth Celebration — a beloved tradition honoring our country and community!

NEW THIS YEAR — Cash prizes will be awarded to the top race finishers overall, including a \$100 cash prize for the 1st place overall male and female finishers! Prizes will also be awarded to the top three finishers in each age group. And all race participants will be entered into a raffle to win a special Fun on the Fourth package! After the race, all participants are encouraged to enjoy live music on the town common.

The race will be professionally chip timed by RaceWire and there will be t-shirts for participants while supplies last. Participants are encouraged to register before April 30 in order to take advantage of the discounted early registration fee. You can sign up today at <http://getmeregistered.com/wilmafirecracker>!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the Fourth of July Committee at foccommittee@gmail.com. You can sign up for the Wilmington Community Series to receive a discounted registration bundle for both our Firecracker 5K and our Fall Fest 5K at the same time!

News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

NEW PROGRAMMING JUST FOR YOU!

Where's Wilmington Episode #185

Lisa Kapala-Egan returns to "Where's Wilmington" with a new episode featuring: Jeff Hall, Director of Communications for the Red Cross, and Peter James, lifelong organizer and volunteer for Red Cross blood drives held at the Congregational church here in Wilmington.

During the episode, Jeff and Peter discuss their

passion for serving the community via their work with the Red Cross. They also share why they got involved with the Red Cross and how you can get involved too!

Get to Know Wilmington High Robotics

Wilmington High Robotics took on the State Robotics Competition on Sunday, March 9. In this fun and short segment, you'll learn all about this amazing club! Members of "The Wildcat Report" crew did a great job reporting on this event.

*These programs can be viewed on WCTV channels

or on WCTV's Youtube channel: WCTVWilmington.

Meetings covered by WCTV:

Tuesday March 18, 7 p.m. Select Board/Finance Committee-joint meeting (Town Hall Auditorium) View on: Verizon channel.38 and Comcast channel 22

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Facebook: WCTV: Wilmington Community Television
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Youtube: WCTV Wilmington

WCTV Channels:

Public Channel: Verizon 37, Comcast 9. Meetings and Government Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 22.

Access Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 6.

To watch programs On-Demand or for more information check us out at WCTV.org.

WCTV is located at 10 Waltham St., Wilmington

Office hours by appointment: (978) 657-4066. Questions about WCTV? Contact: info@wctv.org

Lifestyle

Irish Stew an easy-to-make comfort food

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

On Monday, March 17, despite your heritage birth-right, all New Englanders will consider themselves just a wee bit Irish in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

This fun and festive celebration of Irish heritage usually consists of the wearing of all green and, of course, enjoying traditional Irish food and drink.

Although the Americanized version of corned beef and cabbage has definitely dominated the menu of many St. Patrick's Day meals, there is another traditional Irish meal that is easy to prepare for small or large St. Patrick's gatherings and is always a crowd pleaser.

A hearty bowl of traditional Irish Stew is not only nutritious and delicious, but has been a long standing staple on the dinner tables of Ireland.

It is hard to pinpoint an exact date of when this recipe was first created.

Some experts believe this recipe dates back as early as the 1600's, but most ex-

perts agree it was a staple in Irish households by the 1800's.

Originally, this meal was popular among poor, working families in Ireland, as it provided an affordable, filling meal that could be made with a few simple ingredients.

But today, Irish Stew is recognized as a classic comfort food served in homes around the world.

It is believed that Irish Stew may have been first made with goat meat, but most vintage recipes found call for lamb or mutton. With the addition of potatoes, onions, a variety of root vegetables and water, a simple plate of meat and potatoes can turn into a hearty and nutritious meal.

These ingredients are the basic components of a traditional Irish Stew, however, each region of Ireland has its own twist on this recipe, making it a unique meal from region to region in Ireland.

The "Dublin Coddle" is an Irish Stew made with sausage, bacon, onions and potatoes that are seasoned with parsley and thyme. It is an unmistakable and flavorful dish that originated in the Dublin area.

The Connemara Region of County Galway is known for a traditional stew of mutton, potatoes, onions and carrots, seasoned with thyme and bay leaves. A simmering pot of this regional favorite yields melt in your mouth meat and vegetables that really stick to your ribs.

Northern Ireland is famous for a stew similar to the traditional Irish Stew recipe, with the substitution of beef instead of lamb, and seasoned with parsley and thyme.

Regardless of which variation of the recipe you choose, Irish Stew is a nutritionally sound meal that is high in protein and provides a good source of vitamins and minerals, including iron, zinc and B12.

Because this meal has a healthy serving of complex carbohydrates, it offers a slow release of energy, helping you feel full longer.

The traditional accompaniment for this meal is a loaf of Irish Soda Bread or Boxty, which is a traditional Irish pancake made of grated potato, flour and buttermilk.

Originally, Irish Stew was prepared in a cauldron over



an open fire, but today's versions can be prepared on stove top, in a dutch oven, or a crock pot.

To perfect your Irish Stew at home, be sure to use a good quality stock or broth for depth of flavor.

The addition of a pint of a dark ale, like Guinness, will add a complex flavor to this simple dish.

Never be afraid to experiment with your own combinations of herbs and spices. This will not only put your own stamp on the recipe, but also allows you to curb the flavor to your own particular palette.

There are several modern twists to this tradi-

tional recipe that can offer an entirely new flavor, but still keep that homey, comfort food experience.

Try substituting mussels or white fish instead of beef or lamb for a brighter, mediterranean flavor.

For vegan and vegetarians, use multiple root vegetables like turnip, parsnip and sweet potatoes, and add chickpeas or lentils in place of traditional proteins.

Irish Stew also serves well as leftovers. Easily reheat on stove top or in the microwave, or bake leftover stew layered between biscuits or puffed pastry. You can also serve it with

cheese as a topping for nacho chips.

Remember, serving Irish Stew isn't limited to just once a year on St. Patrick's Day. The recipes to make this traditional Irish food are so easy, you can easily add it into your everyday meal rotation and enjoy this hearty comfort food all year long.

For a traditional Irish Stew recipe, visit www.the pioneerwoman.com and search Irish Stew recipe.

To find multiple variations of Irish Stew recipes, visit www.delish.com and search 10+ Ways to make Irish Stew.

▼ The Fitchburg Public Market features local vendors serving foods of many countries. Baked goods, chocolates, and dishes from Columbia, Puerto Rico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic are freshly prepared at this newly opened market. (Paige Impink photo)



Check out the Twin Cities Rail Trail in Fitchburg

By PAIGE IMPINK
News Correspondent

We took the chance to explore the Twin Cities Rail Trail in Fitchburg recently. Thanks to the warmer temperatures, the paved trail was clear and ready for walkers and cyclists.

Formerly the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad, the 4.7 mile multi-use trail runs between Fitchburg and Leominster and was opened in 2022. We started at the Fitchburg end, on First Street at DeCaria Park. While a little bit of a gritty section of town, we had no trouble parking on the street and starting our walk.

The trail is 12 feet wide and level, with benches, bike racks and maps available on impressive granite pillars. The Nashua River runs alongside the trail and despite the not-yet-in bloom surroundings, birds were singing and it was good to get out in the fresh air and walk.

As with many trails, there is trash around, but the trail itself is clean and clear. It is actually plowed in the winter, making it accessible for most of the year.

We passed the impressive DiTommaso Bridge, which is only the second cable stay bridge of its kind in the state. It resembles the Zakim Bridge in Boston and is quite imposing in this neighborhood section of the trail.

Interpretive signs installed by a local scout troop pay homage to the railroad history that was so vital to commerce in the Fitchburg/Leominster area in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

We passed a granite "W" whistle stop marker — always a fun thing to see on rail trails. Just imagine the conductor blowing the whistle as the train made its way along the track.

Just before our walk on the trail, we had a delicious lunch at the Fitchburg Public Market. This new

food emporium has about eight restaurant stalls, a selection of fresh grocery items and a commercial kitchen for entrepreneurs to use by the hour.

On our visit, we tried Puerto Rican and Dominican fare, including empanadas, smoked pork, pigeon peas and rice, fried plantains, and alcapurrias- fritters coated in taro root. We had to try the Dubai chocolate bon bons and a cookie as well, then went next door for a drink at Identity Coffee Co.

While the market has just a few tables and chairs, we were fine on a Saturday for lunch and surely could have done takeout to eat along the trail.

So, if you are heading out toward Fitchburg, consider a detour to the market for some wonderful cuisine and take some time to enjoy a leisurely walk or bike ride along the Twin Cities Rail Trail.



▲ The Twin Cities Rail Trail runs 4.7 miles from Fitchburg to Leominster along the old Fitchburg Railroad line. (Paige Impink photo)

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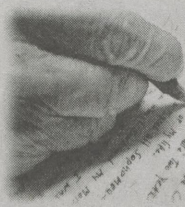
Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to more than 80 percent since we opened more than 50 years ago. We won't stop until no child dies from cancer, but we can't do it without you.

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St. Jude patient Sebastian, brain cancer.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
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OPINION



Letters to the editor

~notice concerning local spring elections~

The *Town Crier* won't accept any letters related to the upcoming Wilmington and Tewksbury elections the week of the elections. All letters should be in by Tuesday, March 25 at 5 p.m. for the Tewksbury election and Tuesday, April 15 at 5 p.m. for the Wilmington election.

Thank you.

Committee still seeking nominations or 'Good Guy'

To the editor,

You now have about three weeks left to send in your nomination for the 2025 Wilmington Good Guy Award. We have had many deserving people get nominated over the past several years and have always struggled with choosing that one person who stands out above all others.

Your nomination letter might make the difference by telling us that one extra detail that we were not aware of prior to our selection.

What makes that person special when it comes to making a difference in the lives of others? Who donates their time continuously, simply because it is the right thing to do? While many people have a lot to say about how things do and don't get done around town, who are those people that are stepping up and actually doing something about it without seeking recognition or credit?

We can't accept nomina-

tions for elected individuals or town employees who are just "doing their jobs," but if you have noticed that one person from Wilmington who stands out above the others, how about spending a few minutes and telling us how that person has impacted you or someone else that you know.

We would love to help recognize them at this year's Good Guy Award's Dinner on May 9 at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Send your email nomination to Wilmingtongoodguy@gmail.com, or postal mail to Wilmington Good Guy Committee c/o 2 West St. Wilmington 01887. All nominations must be received by Friday April 4, 2025 at 5 p.m. All nomination letters will be acknowledged, and the name of the winner will be sent to all whom submitted letters on their behalf.

Thank you!
Wilmington Good Guy Committee

Leave fluoride decision to science, not speculation

To the editor,

The Tewksbury Board of Health is currently considering whether to continue fluoridating our drinking water. This is a decision that should be based on science, not speculation.

Decades of research, supported by every major public health organization — including the CDC, WHO, and American Dental Association — confirm that water fluoridation is a safe, effective and cost-efficient way to prevent tooth decay.

It reduces cavities by at least 25% and saves communities money by lowering dental treatment costs. The CDC estimates that every \$1 spent on fluoridation saves \$20-\$38 in avoided dental expenses.

Tewksbury currently spends just \$15,875 per year to fluoridate its water — about 50 cents per person annually. By comparison, replacing this protection with fluoride mouthwash would cost a family of four around \$134 per year. For those who can afford it, supplementation is an option, but for many residents — especially children in lower-income families and seniors on fixed incomes — fluoridation is their only consistent source

of cavity prevention.

Some have raised concerns about fluoride's potential impact on IQ, citing recent studies. While ongoing research is important, these studies have not overturned decades of established science. Many examine fluoride levels much higher than what is used in U.S. water systems, and they fail to control for other factors that influence cognitive development.

The National Academies of Science reviewed this research and found no confirmed causal link between fluoridation and cognitive harm.

Fluoridation is one of the greatest public health achievements of the 20th century — a simple, affordable solution that benefits everyone, particularly those with limited access to dental care. If the Board of Health votes to remove it, the burden will fall hardest on those least able to replace it.

I urge the Board to stand with science, stand with public health, and keep Tewksbury's water fluoridated.

Sincerely,
Dustin Weir
Tewksbury

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!

Send Letters to the Editor to:

office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.

Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

Healey-Driscoll Administration recognizes Flood Safety Week

FRAMINGHAM — The Healey-Driscoll Administration, in coordination with the National Weather Service Boston/Norton office, encourages all Massachusetts residents to know their flood risk and take steps to protect themselves and their homes during Flood Safety Awareness Week, March 9-15.

Flooding is the most common natural hazard in Massachusetts and nationally, 90 percent of all presidentially declared natural disasters involve flooding.

"I've visited communities after severe flooding and seen firsthand the devastating damage it causes to homes, businesses, schools and roads," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're taking steps to better understand and address future flood risk across the state, and we urge all residents to do their part as well to help protect their families and homes from flooding."

"Multiple flood events across Massachusetts in recent years have demonstrated how flooding can affect our homes, businesses, farms and infrastructure," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "Whether you live on the coast or inland, you should have a plan for what you will do to stay safe if a flood warning is issued for your area and check whether your insurance includes flood coverage."

ther your insurance includes flood coverage."

FLOOD SAFETY TIPS:
• Stay informed. Be aware of weather forecast information, whether its heavy rain or a warmup that causes snowmelt. Have more than one way to receive weather warnings and find out whether your property is in a flood-prone or high-risk area.

• Protect your family. Create an emergency plan so you and your loved ones know what to do and where to go in case a flood or flash flood warning is issued for your area. Practice the plan and make a list of emergency numbers and important contacts.

• Consider purchasing flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Flood losses are typically not covered under renter and homeowner's insurance policies. Flood insurance is available in most communities whether or not your building is in a flood-prone area.

• Keep water out of and away from your house. Clean gutters regularly, direct downspouts away from your foundation, repair cracks in your foundation, improve grading so water flows away from your house, and cover window wells.

• Move valuables out

of the basement. Elevate your furnace, water heater and electric panel, as well as any valuable items stored in the basement to minimize damage from basement flooding.

While some areas are more susceptible to flooding, every part of the state has a potential risk. Roughly 25 percent of all national flood insurance claims come from properties outside designated flood plains, according to the NFIP.

"The threat of flooding extends across the state — including areas that may not be designated as flood-prone locations," said Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Director Dawn Brantley. "Flooding can occur quickly and catch people off-guard, which is why it's important to plan ahead and be ready to move to higher ground or evacuate if needed. Prior planning is especially important for people who have disabilities or lack transportation, so check with your loved ones to make sure they have a plan for flooding and other emergencies. While flood insurance isn't required in all areas, it is available to any homeowner and can provide valuable financial protection in the event of a flood. If full coverage isn't an option, explore lower-cost policies or other resources that may help safeguard your home and finances."

that may help safeguard your home and finances."

"Over the last several years, we have seen firsthand how flooding due to extreme weather and snowmelt events affects residents and businesses across Massachusetts," said Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Commissioner Brian Arrigo. "Our team at DCR looks forward to working with our partners at MEMA during Flood Safety Awareness Week to help train our local emergency management directors and provide them with the tools to ensure our communities are prepared in the event of a flood in their area."

During Flood Safety Awareness Week, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will share flood tips and resources on the agency's social media channels. Follow MEMA on Facebook and X. MEMA and the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Flood Hazard Management Program will also host a series of webinars for local emergency management directors across the state to better understand FEMA flood maps for their areas.

More information on what to do before, during and after a flood can be found at [Mass.gov/info-details/flood-safety-tips](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/flood-safety-tips).

Upcoming local events

[g/about-5](https://www.greaterlowellmca.org)

February 3 - March 16, Belle of the Ball dress collection. Donate a dress or in other ways to provide prom dresses to help junior and senior girls feel great about themselves and enjoy their special school celebrations. Visit [antonsons.com/belle](https://www.antonsons.com/belle) for details. Local partners include Anton's Cleaners, Jordans Furniture, and Enterprise Bank.

March 11 - April 15, Tewksbury Public Library. 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. NAMI Basics (National Alliance on Mental Illness Massachusetts) Free course for parents and family caregivers of children and adolescents with emotional or behavioral issues. Meets weekly on Tuesdays. Contact teachers: Dee at dee.jebba@comcast.net or Brian at brian.sarr19@gmail.com

March 14, Trivia and Tunes at the Tewksbury Senior Center. Bring your friends or join a group for this fun music trivia from 1 - 3 p.m. Light refreshments served or bring your own. Call the Senior Center with questions at: (978) 640-4480 and to reserve your spot.

March 15, Puzzle Race, Tewksbury Public Library. Pull a team together and try to complete a puzzle before the other teams do! This is an amateur event. 10:30 a.m. Register online at <https://www.tewksburypl.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/in-person-puzzle-race-9/>

March 15, Puzzle Swap, Tewksbury Public Library. Bring your complete jigsaw puzzle to the li-

brary from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. to swap for another, or buy a new puzzle to try. Pieces should be sealed in zip bag and puzzle box closed. All pieces separated — no chunks. To benefit Friends of the Library.

March 24, Eat-In/Take Out for the Friends of the Library at Vic's Waffle House, 283 Old Main St. in Tewksbury. Come eat breakfast for dinner from 4 - 7 p.m.! Vic's will be open exclusively for the Friends fund raiser. There will be a 50/50 raffle with proceeds funding the programming at the library.

March 29, Tewksbury/Wilmington/Billerica Rabies Clinic, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Tewksbury Senior Center, 175 Chandler St., Tewksbury. Free microchips. Cats must be in carriers, dogs on leash. Wilmington licenses available. Shots \$30. Cash or check only. Open to all towns. Call 978-215-9639 for more information. First come, first served.

April 18, Wine Tasting to Benefit Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library, One Stop Liquors, Oakdale Plaza, 5 - 7 p.m. \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Get tickets at: <https://www.friendstplibrary.org>

April 21 - 25, April Vacation Camp at Tewksbury Rec, 2 day minimum, camp runs 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 978-454-7825 to register. www.greaterlowellmca.org

September 13, 2025 - Wilmington High School Class of 1975 50th reunion, live band, dancing, buffet dinner, cash bar. Pay by April 1 - \$85, April 2 - July 1 — \$90, July 2 through last minute walk-ins — \$95. Register and pay at: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/high-school-class-reunion-temp65333/items?cart> Questions? Steve Brander skbrander@gmail.com Reunion Organizers: Steve Brander / Vin Scifo / Helen Ryba

Thursdays, Saturdays, and the first Sunday of the month, Public Health Museum, 365 East St., Open for indoor and campus tours. Check website for times. [Publichealthmuseum.org](https://www.publichealthmuseum.org)

Book Store Next Door, Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Wilmington Public Library. All proceeds support library programs. Next to Wilmington Public Library.

Book Stew Review

'Just Kids' by Patti Smith

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

The audio book of this 2010 National Book Award winner, as read by Patti herself, is entertaining, joyous and sorrowful. That New Jersey accent!

Sleeping rough, on stoops or in Central Park, is what Patti does when she leaves her South Jersey working class family and throws herself into creating art in New York City. On the night of her arrival, she meets Robert Mapplethorpe in a crash pad, and they immediately pledge to find success in art and poetry.

They're mostly starving and scrounging until they scare up enough funds to rent the smallest room at the notorious Chelsea Hotel, and while hanging out in the lobby and at the El Quijote restaurant next

door, they meet musicians, elder beat poets, artists, junkies, and denizens of Andy Warhol's Factory.

They stay romantically attached until Robert gives in to his attraction to men, but they remain the most loyal and loving friends. Robert insists that only fame will validate his talent.

Patti is shy and only a new Keith Richards-style haircut brings her out and gains the attention of major and minor celebrities, which is as negligible to her as it is important to Robert. Her narrative is simultaneously thrilling and heartbreaking.

Despite the tragic ending, with Patti's mysterious departure from New York, marriage, and move to Detroit, and Robert's death, listening is a true pleasure.

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

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Movie Review:

'Mickey 17'
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Recipe:

Corned Beef and
Cabbage Page B2



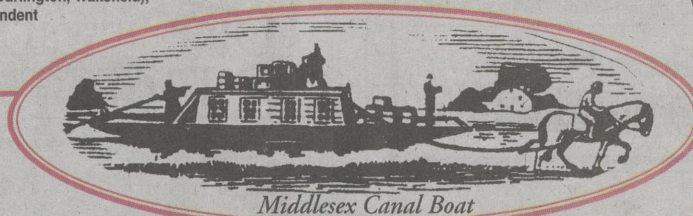
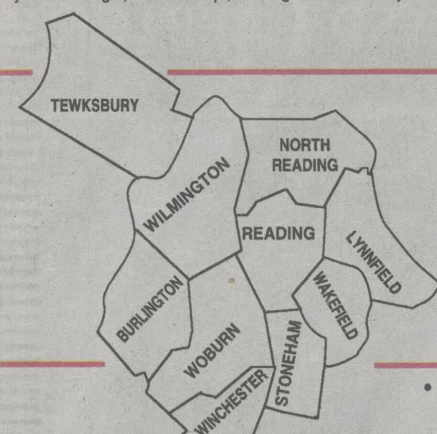
Real Estate

Transfers Page B3



MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield),
Lynnfield Villager, No. Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 13, 2025 B1



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Reading residents rally against MBTA's turnback track plans

By PATRICK BLAIS

Caught off-guard by the spectacular public backlash over the modernization plan, MBTA officials late last month ordered a strategic retreat from a "turnback track" proposal in Reading that will enable the transportation agency to run Haverhill Line commuter trains into Boston every 30 minutes.

In an announcement made just days before hosting a community meeting in Reading's senior center in regards to the \$10.9 million project, MBTA officials during the final week of February revealed they would be formally withdrawing a permitting application pending before the community's Conservation Commission, and will be reapplying at a later date.

"As of yesterday, the team decided to withdraw the notice of intent from the Conservation Commission. This is to allow more public engagement and conversation before we go back to apply," MBTA Environmental Compliance Officer Jeremy Fontaine told a large gathering town residents.

The move comes after a small core of project detractors, who reside in a residential neighborhood sandwiched between Willow and Woburn Streets where the proposed 4,500-foot length of double tracking is to be constructed, mounted a grassroots cam-

paign against the project that now includes scores of Reading residents and the community's top public safety managers.

Back in December, the MBTA first sought an order of conditions from the Conservation Commission to re-establish a redundant section of tracks along an abandoned freight railroad bed so that trains heading northbound from Boston can quickly turn around just upstream of Reading Station.

The so-called turnback track, which is needed to move ahead with a rail modernization project first proposed back in 2019, will allow commuter rail service between Reading and North Station to run in 30-minute intervals. Having already constructed a similar turnaround area in Beverly, the MBTA has argued that the use of such turnback tracks is one of the cheapest ways to increase the frequency of commuter rail trips in "inner core" suburban areas situated outside of Boston.

Similar turnback track installations are also being eyed by Anderson Station in Woburn, by Kendal Station in Cambridge, and in Framingham.

"The new turnback track is intended to allow for a train car set to queue off the main line to both allow other trains to pass and to provide parking space for the for the additional train set," a project narrative submitted to the Conservation Commission



TRAIN STOP - Public backlash has prompted MBTA officials to withdraw a "turnback track" permit application in Reading. The transit agency is expected to reapply at a later date. (Courtesy Photo)

late last year explains. "The location of the new turnback track is in an area that historically was a second set of tracks and is currently degraded. The work will be entirely within the existing disturbed and degraded area within the railroad right-of-way."

Initially, opposition to the proposal was muted, as just a handful of area residents whose homes sit within 100-feet of the existing commuter rail line received notices about the Conservation Commission deliberations.

However, with word spreading to other abutters as that process played out in Town Hall, more and more residents found themselves questioning whether the turnaround area would become a long-term staging area where fumes from diesel-powered locomotives would linger. Others, noting that about 1,057 linear feet of new tracks would end up sitting between a local bird preserve

and the community's Maillet, Sommes, and Morgan Conservation Area where some \$5 million had just been spent on an ambitious wetlands restoration project, insisted the turnback track be moved to a less sensitive location.

Frustrated by what they described as an information blackout around the genesis of the \$10.9 million project, how the site would function, and what alternatives were considered, residents turned to the town's Select Board for help.

"The MBTA has not provided the Town of Reading with any in-depth documentation so the residents have information about what's going on," complained Hancock Street resident Jim Riley during a Select Board meeting in January. "We just don't want a diesel locomotive staging area behind our houses. Reading residents' health

• MBTA TO B3

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Saturday
March 22, 2025
8:00PM



Darlene Wynn



Athene Wilson

The Music of...
Dionne Warwick
Whitney Houston
Chaka Khan
...and others!

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Always time to die? In 'Mickey 17,' Robert Pattinson just can't manage to stay alive



HEY MICKEY - Robert Pattinson as Mickey 18, left, and Mickey 17 in a scene from "Mickey 17" released by Warner Bros. Pictures. (Warner Bros. Pictures via AP)

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

So you think YOUR job is bad?

Sorry if we seem to be lacking empathy here. But however crummy you think your 9-5 routine is, it'll never be as bad as Robert Pattinson's in Bong Joon Ho's "Mickey 17" — nor will any job, on Earth or any planet, approach this level of misery.

Mickey, you see, is an "Expendable," and by this we don't mean he's a cast member in yet another sequel to Sylvester Stallone's tired band of mercenaries ("Expendables"?). No, even worse! He's literally expendable, in that his job description requires that he die, over and over, in the worst possible ways, only to be "reprinted" once again as the next Mickey.

And from here stems the good news, besides the excellent Pattinson, whom we hope got hazard pay, about Bong's hotly anticipated follow-up to "Parasite." There's creativity to spare, and

much of it surrounds the ways he finds for his lead character to expire — again and again.

The bad news, besides, well, all the death, is that much of this film devolves into narrative chaos, bloat and excess. In so many ways, the always inventive Bong just doesn't know where to stop. It hardly seems a surprise that the sci-fi novel, by Edward Ashton, he's adapting here is called "Mickey7" — Bong decided to add 10 more Mickeys.

The first act, though, is crackling. We begin with Mickey lying alone at the bottom of a crevasse, having barely survived a fall. It is the year 2058, and he's part of a colonizing expedition from Earth to a far-off planet. He's surely about to die. In fact, the outcome is so expected that his friend Timo (Steven Yeun), staring down the crevasse, asks casually: "Haven't you died yet?"

How did Mickey get here? We flash back to Earth, where Mickey and

Timo ran afoul of a villainous loan shark. This man likes to dine while watching his goons torture delinquent borrowers. Needless to say, the two young men need to escape — and far.

So they join the expedition to planet Nilheim. Filling out his job application, Mickey, a hapless chap with an American grifter accent apparently subconsciously inspired by Steve Buscemi in "Fargo," fails to read the fine print. He's distracted by the smell of a woman's hair.

It's rather a shock, then, when he learns what he signed up for. During the four-plus year journey, he'll be a human guinea pig, subjected to countless fatal indignities. Sending him out to absorb cosmic radiation, they ask Mickey to track the moment his skin burns and the moment he becomes blind. When his hand falls off and floats by the ship's windows, nobody takes notice.

That's because a human "printer" awaits — looking a lot like an MRI machine — ready to reprint him, with memory backup. Human printing has been banned on Earth, but is legal in space, where there is also, unfortunately, no worker's comp.

Things are bleak on the ship. Food is rationed severely. Sex takes up too many calories, so it is banned, by none other than Kenneth Marshall, the wealthy, pompous, thin-skinned leader of the expedition (Mark Ruffalo) and his unpleasantly perky wife, Ylfa (Toni Collette). This is inconvenient for Mickey, whose shipboard life is made bearable only by Nasha (Naomi Ackie), his brave and loving girlfriend,

HomeNewsHere
RECIPE

CORNEBEEF
AND CABBAGE



POT LUCK - The secret to a hearty meal is to keep it simple. This corned beef recipe only has 4 ingredients, but by allowing the corned beef brisket to simmer for up to 3 hours and 30 minutes with onion, garlic and spices, you'll end up with a juicy, tender corned beef. Once it's done cooking, finish off your Corned Beef and Cabbage recipe by boiling the cabbage and serving it together for a classic meal that satisfies.

STEPS

1. Remove beef from package, reserving juices and spices. Trim fat from beef; place beef in 4-quart Dutch oven. Add reserved juices and spices. Add enough cold water just to cover beef. Add onion and garlic.

2. Heat to boiling; reduce heat to low. Cover; simmer 2 hours 30 minutes to 3 hours 30 minutes or until beef is tender.

3. Remove beef to warm platter; keep warm. Skim fat from broth. Add cabbage to broth. Heat to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer uncovered about 15 minutes or until cabbage is tender. Serve with beef.

EXPERT TIPS

• Corned beef is beef brisket that has been cured in brine to give it a distinct flavor; it should not be confused with the plain cut of meat called "brisket." Corned beef is sold in a sealed plastic bag with the brine. Since the brine contains plenty of salt, none is added to the recipe.

• For a New England Boiled Dinner, omit 1 medium onion. Decrease simmer time of beef in step 2 to 2 hours. Skim fat from broth. Add 6 small onions, 6 medium carrots (cut in half), 3 medium potatoes (peeled and cut in half) and, if desired, 3 turnips (peeled and cut into cubes) to broth. Cover; simmer 20 minutes.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 corned beef brisket (2 1/2 to 3 lb)
- 1 medium onion, cut into 6 wedges
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 1 small head green cabbage, cut into 6 wedges

Remove beef to warm platter; keep warm. Add cabbage to broth and vegetables. Heat to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer uncovered about 15 minutes or until vegetables are tender.

• Slow Cooker Directions: Spray 3 1/2- to 6-quart slow cooker with cooking spray. In slow cooker, place trimmed beef with juices and spices from package. Add enough cold water just to cover beef. Add onion and garlic; top with cabbage. Cover; cook on Low heat setting 7 to 8 hours or until beef and cabbage are tender.

but they seem to get it on nonetheless, between Mickey's deaths and new lives.

Marshall's supporters wear red baseball caps, which gives you a pretty good hint as to which real-life leader Ruffalo, and Bong, are trying to evoke here. Current political references aside, Ruffalo relies mainly on an eccentric facial tic, and it must be said that both he and Collette grow more buffoonish, and hence more tiresome, as time goes on.

But Pattinson's Mickey is the life (um, lives) we care about. By the time he falls into a crevasse and meets

up with some presumably terrifying but also cute native animals — creepers, they're called — sure to eat him alive, he is Mickey 17. But somehow, he miraculously survives. And things really get complicated when he gets back to the ship and meets — what? — Mickey 18. Oh no! Suddenly he's not only an Expendable, he's a Multiple. This is bad news.

Pattinson does double duty in the now-dual role, with one Mickey much more violent and nasty than the other as the two fight for survival. It's his movie, and he saves it from Bong's tendencies to overstuff the proceedings. In an extremely

physical, committed, even exhausting performance, Pattinson takes what could have been an unwieldy mess and makes it much less, well, expendable.

Hopefully he's recovering well.

"Mickey 17," a Warner Bros. release, has been rated R by the Motion Picture Association "for violent content, language throughout, sexual content and drug material." Running time: 139 minutes. Two stars out of four.

For more movie reviews please visit web site www.homenewshere.com.

RMLD



Reading Municipal Light Department
RELIABLE POWER

LEGAL NOTICE

IFB 2025-07

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30, § 39M, the Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) solicits sealed bids for:

ELECTRIC UTILITY EXCAVATION SERVICES

The work involves the provision of labor, materials, vehicles, and equipment, on an as-needed basis, for excavation and related services, including but not limited to backfilling, site restoration, sidewalk and pavement patchwork and repair, and other services in connection with the installation of underground electric facilities, manhole removal and replacements, utility pole installations, site remediation, and other utility maintenance and repair projects, as further described in the specifications. The work will be performed on an on-call, emergency, and non-emergency basis at RMLD's request in its electric service territory in the Towns of Reading and Wilmington, North Reading and Lynnfield Center, Massachusetts. RMLD does not guarantee any particular amount of work and reserves the right to procure the same or similar work for individual projects from other contractors subject to and in accordance with the requirements of M.G.L. c. 30, § 39M. Non-emergency work in which the estimated cost of the project exceeds \$50,000 will be procured separately pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30, § 39M.

Bids shall be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope marked, "ELECTRIC UTILITY EXCAVATION SERVICES; IFB 2025-07." All bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of cash, a bid bond, a certified check, treasurer's or a cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company payable to the "Reading Municipal Light Department" in the amount of five (5) percent of the estimated value of the bid. The bid deposit must be submitted in a separate, sealed envelope, marked "Bid Deposit." No bidder may withdraw its bid for a period of ninety (90) days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after the date of opening bids.

The work is subject to prevailing wage laws. Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the weekly payroll record submittal requirements under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 26 -27D inclusive.

RMLD will receive sealed bids until 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 230 Ash Street, Reading, Massachusetts, 01867, ATTN: Purchasing Department, at which time bids will be opened and read aloud. Bids received after the deadline and without the required bid deposit will not be accepted.

Bid documents may be obtained by emailing Maureen Sullivan, Assistant Materials Manager, at msullivan@rmlid.com. For questions or further information, please contact Maureen Sullivan at 781-942-6441.

RMLD reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive minor irregularities and informalities, and to take such action as it deems to be in the public interest.

No award shall be final until RMLD executes an agreement signed by a duly authorized representative.

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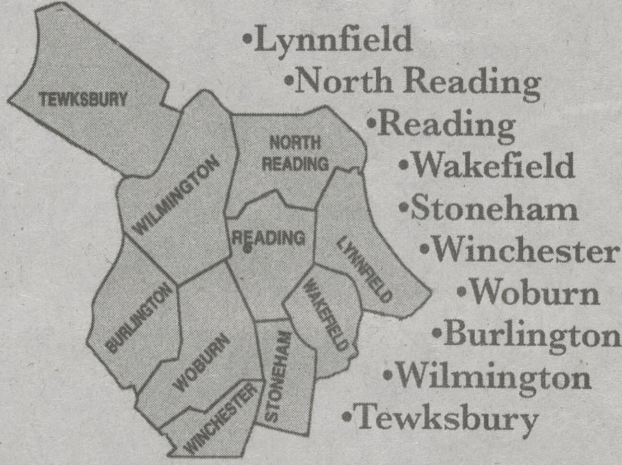
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Saturday, March 22 at 8:00 p.m.

Popular Divas of Soul returning to Arlington's Regent Theatre



LOCAL SUPERSTAR ATHENE WILSON
(Photo by Josh Reynolds)

The charismatic Leon Beal returns to Arlington's Showplace of Entertainment to continue Women's History Month at The REGENT THEATRE on Saturday, March 22 at 8:00 pm. He is bringing back his ever-popular R&B, Soul and Gospel Classic: The Divas of Soul!

Begun in 2019 with an original tribute to The Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin, Beal will feature local superstars Athene Wilson and Darlene Wynn at Center Stage in Arlington and music from the songbooks of Dionne Warwick, Whitney Houston and Chaka Khan will take the top billing.

Both Wilson and Wynn are well known for their prowess on stage, having both won the prestigious New England Urban Music Award multiple times since 2013. In fact, they both honed their talents as young women and strong solo performers in local Boston Church Choirs, but Athene stands alone as perhaps the finest female R&B, Jazz, Soul and Gospel vocalist in New England.

Before immigrating to Boston, Athene's singing career began at the tender age of seven in a small Pentecostal church in Jamaica. With a voice that can captivate hearts, Athene has become a force to be reckoned with in the music industry. Wilson's versatile vocals are sought after by commercial recording studios and European promoters, and she has been featured on com-

mercials and CDs as a preferred back-up singer. Wilson possesses a voice capable of singing red-hot funk, blasting out the blues, or singing tender love songs and jazz ballads. As a vocalist, Athene has the unique ability to convey emotions through her powerful and soulful voice. She often leaves her audience standing in awe.

You will find that Athene Wilson's energy on stage is infectious. She knows how to engage audiences and create a one-of-a-kind experience. She has performed with James Taylor, Natalie Cole, Smokey Robinson, The Boston Pops with Keith Lockheart, Patti LaBelle and was recently on tour with Gloria Gaynor. Her ability to harmonize with musicians and other singers of talent like Darlene Wynn creates a stage presence that is bound to thrill you on March 22nd.

Do not miss the return of The Divas of Soul as Athene Wilson and Darlene Wynn celebrate Women's History Month in Arlington at The Regent Theatre. The Regent Theatre "Arlington's Show Place of Entertainment" since 1916 is located on 7 Medford Street in Arlington, Massachusetts—minutes from Cambridge, Boston, and Routes 2 and 95.

For tickets and more information visit <https://regenttheatre.com> or call 781-646-4849.

Reading residents are eligible to rent plots to grow produce and flowers...

Apply for a raised garden bed at the Reading Community Garden

The Mattera Conservation Area is home to Reading's Community Garden. Opened in 2022, the Garden is located opposite the Cabin. Reading residents are eligible to rent plots to grow produce and flowers for their own use; they may also donate part or all of their crops to the Reading Food Pantry.

The Garden currently has 46 plots. All of the plots are framed and filled with planting soil. forty-three are ground level, 4' x 8' with 17.5" high frames; three are slightly higher (29") to provide easier access. When you complete your application, you will choose the option that meets your needs.

Each gardener pays a \$50 fee each year to rent their plot; the fees go toward the cost of maintaining the garden. Gardeners must follow the rules in our agreement. These are fairly standard for community gardens, with requirements such as using organic practices and avoid-



ing invasive plants. Gardeners are expected to attend an orientation meeting, and they're encouraged to share in workdays and occasional informal get-togethers.

Tip: If you have not used our online permitting system before, you'll have to set up an account. You'll be asked

to choose the type of plot you require (height of 17.5" or 29") and to verify that you've read the Gardener Agreement.

IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR 2025:

Please submit applications by March 31, 2025.

Plots will be assigned by the end of the first week of April 2025.

Returning gardeners interested in applying for the same plot or would like to request a different one, please contact Town Staff.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING COMMUNITY GARDEN LIAISON?

We are seeking two individuals for the 2025 season that will be supported by Town Staff and receive a free garden plot. Contact: communitygarden@readingma.gov or 781-942-6616

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

9 Kingsdale St was sold to Mozaffari, Ali and Darjani, Shaghayegh by Marangu, Roy and Marangu, Rachael for \$1,155,000 on 02/20/25

NORTH READING

3 Greenbriar Dr #302 was sold to Rrapo, Ali and Rrapo, Ermiria by Prescott St Inv LLC for \$370,000 on 02/21/25

2 Summer St was sold to Deng, Tiantong and Carley, Daniel by Canas, Harold F and Ochoa, Ernestina R for \$770,000 on 02/21/25

19 Westward Cir was sold to Obrien, Michael and Follette, Shana by Dilendick, Stefanie and Fields, Robert for \$1,300,000 on 02/21/25

READING

10 Abigail Way #4008 was sold to Boutchia, Lucille by Bishara Ft and Bishara, Ghassan K for \$675,000 on 02/18/25

17 Lewis St was sold to He, Kaitlyn by Dibenedetto, Nicole and Giove, Stephen for \$785,000 on 02/18/25

1013 Main St was sold to Parise, Michael and Whitney, Jay T by Oliver, John P for \$725,000 on 02/20/25

334 Main St was sold to 334 Main St Reading LLC by North Pole Prop Invorsto for \$875,000 on 02/19/25

18 Wentworth Rd was sold to Uswatta, Suren and Wolfe, Monica by James, Nathan and James, Julie for \$1,000,000 on 02/19/25

STONEHAM

7 Pine St was sold to 7pinest LLC by Eastman, Michael and Us Bank TNa Tr for \$473,000 on 02/21/25

TEWKSBURY

225 Apache Way #225 was sold to Rizza, Cassaundra and Rizza, Matthew by Daramola, Farhiyo and Daramola, Alfred for \$506,500 on 02/18/25

205 Foster Rd was sold to Brooks, Bonnie J and Oldfield, Alexander D by Mcguire, Beth A for \$802,500 on 02/18/25

59 James Ave was sold to Kehoe, Shaun A and Kehoe, Samantha L by Yu, Kyungjin and Oh, Yoonchul for \$939,000 on 02/19/25

2131 Main St #420 was sold to Cruz, Martha M by 2131 Main Street LLC for \$719,999 on 02/18/25

2131 Main St #440 was sold to Pingulkar, Ameya and Patil, Nikita by 2131 Main Street LLC for \$730,000 on 02/19/25

270 Trull Rd was sold to Mazzotta, Justin A and Mazzotta, Alyssa R by Maia, Philip C and Maia, Patricia G for \$637,500 on 02/18/25

WAKEFIELD

47 Cooper St Ext was sold to 47 Cooper LLC by Starr, John J and Sullivan, Patrick for \$475,000 on 02/20/25

100 Nahant St #380 was sold to Wen, Jianyun and Chen, Yu by Marrithew, Gayle E for \$485,000 on 02/18/25

410 Salem St #304 was sold to Fremont Hm Loan T and Deutsche Bk Natl T Co Tr by Fadili, Amir A and Deutsche Bk Natl T Co Tr for \$622,265 on 02/20/25

410 Salem St #701 was sold to Walawalkar, Rhishikesh and Bansod, Nupur by Carol L Simpson RET and Simpson, Carol L for \$780,000 on 02/21/25

WILMINGTON

41 Morse Ave was sold to Central Home Inv LLC by Sul-

livan Mark R Est and Zonghetti, Maureen for \$530,000 on 02/18/25

123 Nichols St was sold to Advanced Redevelc by Marten Karin Ingeborg Es and Angel, Sonja for \$600,000 on 02/21/25

WINCHESTER

20 Bellevue Ave was sold to 20 Bellevue Avenue Rt and Wu, Lingyi by 20 Bellevue Avenue LLC for \$2,532,000 on 02/18/25

9 Brookside Pl was sold to Mergen, Onur by Schultz, James V and Rindskopf, Amy K for \$950,000 on 02/21/25

23 Olde Village Dr was sold to Kumar, Kartik and Kumar, Swati by Bartolucci, Carol A for \$2,025,000 on 02/21/25

WOBURN

57 Central St was sold to Hayes, Raymond H by Central Street Rt and Surette, William A for \$685,000 on 02/19/25

36 Derby Dr #36 was sold to Orenstein, Aaron K and Orenstein, Angela J by West Woburn Dev Corp for \$925,000 on 02/20/25

40 Derby Dr #40 was sold to Bishara Ft and Bishara, Ghassan K by West Woburn Dev Corp for \$950,000 on 02/20/25

20 Green St was sold to Dagley, Kristin S by Mostone, Alex C and Mostone, Sarah E for \$832,000 on 02/20/25

45 Merrimac St #20 was sold to Spinale 3rd, Joseph J and Spinale, Gabrielle R by Spinale, Rosanne and Spinale Jr, Joseph J for \$405,000 on 02/21/25

72 Nashua St was sold to Akgun, Burak and Akgun, Sydney by Ivyprop Group LLC for \$770,000 on 02/18/25

• MBTA FROM B-1

and well-being must take precedence over MBTA issues."

"While we're trying to protect the residents of Reading from all of the pollution, emissions and diesel fumes, we also wish to have the MBTA enhance the service. So we're not against [this project]. We just don't want to be living next to a new freight-rail," later insisted Vine Street resident Patricia Crowley.

The public outcry also reached the desks of Reading's Beacon Hill delegation. During an impromptu Zoom discussion with the MBTA in late January, State Senator Jason Lewis, along with House Minority Leader Bradley Jones Jr. and State Representative Richard Haggerty, all blasted the MBTA for what they considered to be a completely avoidable public relations fiasco.

Town Manager Matthew Kraunelis, who sat in on that meeting, later credited the MBTA for trying to reverse course by postponing the Conservation Commission hearings and scheduling a handful of community gatherings in the coming weeks. However, in his opinion, recovering from that mishap would likely prove impossible given the breach in trust.

"They realize [a public outreach campaign is] something that should have been done in the beginning. They apologized, but it's too little too late in my opinion," said the town manager last week. "It should have been done. It wasn't and it's caused a lot of commotion."

After deciding to withdraw their notice of intent from the Conservation Commission to focus on public outreach efforts late last month, Sharon Cranston, an MBTA engineer whose employed as the state agency's Director for Rail Modernization Delivery, insisted that the many of local residents' fears would never come to fruition.

For example, she tried to dispel rumors that trains would be idling in the area for hours at a time and assured area citizens that the turnaround tracks could never double as a space for train maintenance and repairs.

"You can think of it as a shoulder on a roadway. There's no staff at that location, which is important because that limits the activities we can do there," Cranston stated during the latest community forum. "A lot of people are concerned it will become a layover area, [but] that's a staffed facility with full-day activities. When you turn off a train [to service it], you need more than just the people on a train to turn it back on."

Cranston and other project team members also explained that the turnback track would not be utilized on weekends, while on weekdays, trains would never idle on the tracks for longer than 30 minutes.

Responding to neighborhood concerns about late-night noise, she also explained the turnback track's use occur exclusively between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

In order to ensure trains don't leak fuel or other fluids into sensitive wetlands areas, the MBTA had also agreed to install a "train pan" that will not only collect such accident discharges - should they occur - but would also fix the location of where all locomotives idle.

"It fixes the train's location as far away from the closest houses as possible. The locomotives...would need to go all the way way to the end of the track and not be idling behind houses on Hancock Street," she said.

Despite those assurances, the MBTA's efforts to build good-will hit another major snag when Reading Police Chief David Clark and veteran Fire Chief Gregory Burns predicted that the increase in train service would result in

increased emergency response times.

With both public safety managers complaining that the MBTA never reached out to them to discuss the infrastructure project, Burns and Clark's warnings were based on existing problems by railroad crossings where safety gates regularly get stuck and snarl traffic.

"You talked about working with partnerships with the other police agencies. That has yet to happen. I have yet to receive a phone call, an email, anything from the T to ask us the impact it's going to have in our community. It's going to disrupt response times and a job where seconds matter, it's going to affect our ability to get to an emergency on the police side and the fire side. It's going to hurt us and our response times," Clark stated.

I can tell you this, last year 26 times the gates were stuck down. [That's] 26 times we had police officers not patrolling the streets, but out there directing traffic at multiple train crossings because the infrastructure wasn't working. Now you're going to increase the amount of train crossings?" he later asked incredulously.

Though residents have secured a small victory in convincing the MBTA to halt the Conservation Commission proceedings, the state agency has all but guaranteed that it will be back.

In fact, according to Fontaine, who specializes in municipal and state environmental permitting processes, the Conservation Commission technically has little to no grounds to reject the order of conditions, as the MBTA will fully comply with all state regulations concerning work within a bordering vegetated wetlands buffer zone.

"I'm not sure it's something that can be said 'no' to," opined the environmental specialist.



Tewksbury Police Log

Andover male arrested for distributing drugs

Monday, March 3

5:23 a.m. - Police were at Market Basket North with a white pickup truck. It was occupied by a sleeping female and a male. Criminal app issued to operator for unregistered vehicle. Officer filed a report.

12:32 p.m. - A 911 caller reported 30 minutes ago someone knocked on his door and went into the backyard before leaving at Sheridan Lane. Male reportedly came back after five minutes and did the same thing before leaving the area. Vehicle described as a black sedan, male operator was skinny and tall. Caller had left the home and would just like the area checked. Police sent. They viewed the cameras. It was likely a solicitor with a badge around neck.

6:34 p.m. - A 911 caller reported an irate customer at Atamian Honda. The subject was in the parking lot and described as a white, heavy set male, in his 20s, and approximately five-foot ten with a white beard. Police sent. No threats were made. The subject was upset with a

trade offer. Nothing further.

Tuesday, March 4

4:59 p.m. - Resident called the front desk to report loud banging at The Residences at Tewksbury. Police sent. There were no issues. They spoke with the calling party outside.

8:20 p.m. - A 911 caller reported her friend threw a beer can at her at Motel 6. Caller refused to provide information or separate herself from that party and disconnected. Police sent. A courtesy transport into Lowell. Argument between two friends. Officer filed a report.

8:38 p.m. - Police out at Ames Pond Drive with a suspicious male. David Chomicz, 41, of 4 Riverside Drive in Andover, was arrested and charged with distribute class A drugs.

Wednesday, March 5

1:45 p.m. - Caller reported black SUV going up and down the street with smoke coming out the windows at Sheridan Lane. Police sent. They confirmed the only black SUV was parked in

front of their residence and was smoking a cigarette a couple minutes ago.

10:22 p.m. - Caller reported the woman in the unit above him has been making a lot of noise for the past three nights at The Residences at Tewksbury. Police sent. They reported an ongoing issue between the neighbors that management was aware of.

Thursday, March 6

8:33 a.m. - Caller reported a school bus was speeding and hit a trash barrel at Lake Street. Police sent. They reported barrels were too far out into the roadway.

10:29 p.m. - Caller reported syringes on the ground at Merrimack Valley Credit Union. Police sent. They retrieved the items.

1:59 p.m. - A 911 caller stated male party had two dogs off leashes at Motel 6 and the male party was being aggressive. Male party had a black hat, black shirt, and two pitbulls. Caller disconnected when asked his room number and name. Police sent. The

dogs were leashed.

4:47 p.m. - Caller reported she had an argument with a couple at Walmart over a parking spot, and they followed her into the store yelling at her. Caller reported it was a male and female with a child in a white Audi. Caller reported she had since returned home to Bedford but would come into the station tomorrow to speak with an officer.

Friday, March 7

5:10 a.m. - There was a strange man that approached her dog after she walked him at Whipple Road. He was five foot ten, wearing all black. No longer had any visual. Police sent. Jose Machado, 32, of 171 Washington St. in Lynn, was arrested and charged with a warrant.

8:50 a.m. - Caller stated work being done at South Street and an 18-wheeler had been parked in front of her house and had been left idling for over an hour at South Street. Police sent. Officer spoke to both the truck drivers. They would shut the trucks off.

10:13 a.m. - A walk-in party believed her credit cards and license were stolen out of her wallet at Saunders Circle. Police sent. Officer spoke to the party and advice was given.

9:10 p.m. - Caller reported neighbors child had been running around and mother was yelling at Ames Hill

Drive. Police sent. They spoke to both and everything was cleared.

9:48 p.m. - Caller stated male party seemed intoxicated at Brothers Pizza. He was a white male with a cane, flannel shirt, and tried to get into his car. Police sent. Everything cleared. Officer filed a report.

Saturday, March 8

9:43 a.m. - The parents were in a heated argument inside the gym at Ryan School. Caller was concerned it would escalate into a fight. Police sent. Verbal argument only. Officer filed a report.

10:32 a.m. - A 911 caller reported three or four males threatened him. They had left the parking lot. Caller was in a white dodge ram on Walmart side. Police sent. They spoke to the caller who no longer wanted to pursue incident.

11:58 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a female screamed and jumped at Burger King. Police sent. Female party was asked to leave the establishment by the manager. She informed officer that she was waiting for a ride and would walk at the Motel 6. Party refused to identify herself beyond her first name.

6:15 p.m. - Caller from Ryan & Sons Construction Service reported he heard what sounded like eight or nine gun shots coming

from behind his house. She requested the for mutual aid. Wilmington Police Department contacted and they would be sending a cruiser to check out the area. There were no activation their boomerang shot detection system.

9:07 p.m. - A 911 caller reported he was security at Innovation Drive and there were three or four vehicles driving around the lot. Caller reported they had been there for ten minutes. Caller did not attempt to make contact. Police sent. The vehicles left the area before officers arrived.

9:30 p.m. - Caller reported he was being threatened by phone at Royal Crest Circle. He stated he had the threats on voicemails. Police sent and officer filed a report.

9:42 p.m. - A 911 caller stated there was a vehicle occupied circling his truck at Walmart. Police sent. Vehicle left prior to officers arrival. No interaction between the parties. Caller was suspicious after passing vehicle more than once.

Sunday, March 9

11:21 p.m. - Caller reported a dark SUV at Patrick Road blasting music. Caller was unable to see a plate or the number of occupants. Police sent. They checked the area and were unable to locate a vehicle playing loud music in the area.



Wilmington Police Log

Local man arrested for OUI following motor vehicle crash

Friday, Feb. 28:

12:18 p.m.: Shayne D Twombly of 33 Broadway, in Malden, was issued a summons for operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked registration, operation of an uninsured motor vehicle, and not having a valid inspection sticker. This followed a stop of his gray 2012 Ford Focus on Main Street.

12:27 p.m.: A caller on Main Street stated that he was at the Bank of America about an hour ago, where he had a verbal altercation with another patron. He stated that the other customer was now calling him at work, harassing him to try and get his personal information. It was discovered that the other customer was trying to get the manager's info, which an employee did not give to him.

2:00 p.m.: Matthew Joseph Ackerman of 497 Woburn St., in Wilmington, was issued a summons for speeding in violation of special regulations and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license. This followed a stop of his black 2023 Toyota Camry on Salem Street.

Saturday, March 1:

10:38 a.m.: The owner of an orange 2007 Chevy HHR

reported being the victim of a past hit-and-run in the parking lot of the Target on Ballardvale Street. Police checked with loss prevention at the Target to check security footage.

1:38 p.m.: A caller on Main Street reported that their gray 2020 Volvo XC60 was struck while parked in a parking lot.

Sunday, March 2:

1:28 a.m.: Alexander Nazarian of 92 Abbot St., in Andover, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed a stop of his white 2014 Mercedes E-Class near the Elia's on Middlesex Avenue.

7:16 a.m.: Llolangel Pena of 270 Centre St., Apt. #380, in Jamaica Plain, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and not having a valid inspection sticker. This followed a stop of his gray 2012 Nissan Altima on Shawsheen Avenue.

2:34 p.m.: Loss prevention at the Target on Ballardvale Street reported that a man had just switched price tags in the self checkout line and took items including paper tow-

els, food and tools. The man was pulled over on Andover Street, where police took him back to Target and he was issued a no trespass order.

Monday, March 3:

5:58 a.m.: Jacob Stephen Pauwels of 97 Chase Road, in Londonderry, NH, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed a stop of his black 2016 Subaru Impreza at the North Reading line on Concord Street.

10:35 a.m.: A caller at the Woburn Street School on Woburn Street reported that at least five minutes beforehand, a trash company truck labelled Casel-

la hit and struck his work truck while it was moving a dumpster. Police assisted with paperwork exchange.

2:39 p.m.: A caller on Wilton Drive requested an officer come speak to his neighbor regarding knocking on his window and door, making his dog bark. Police spoke with both parties, and the officer and an animal control officer were to follow up the next day.

Tuesday, March 4:

6:02 a.m.: Anthony P Murray of 103 Lowell Road, Apt. #102, in North Reading, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed a stop of his red 2015 Ford Edge on Salem Street.

2:40 p.m.: A caller on Jefferson Road requested officers for a terminated employee who was demanding her paycheck and refusing to leave. The woman involved left the business.

8:58 p.m.: Shannon Dawn Daley of 8 Westdale Ave., in Wilmington, was arrested for OUI-Liquor over .08% and leaving the scene of property damage. This followed her white 2018 Ford Edge hitting a pole on Strout Avenue, whereafter she left the scene in a different vehicle.

Wednesday, March 5:

12:10 p.m.: A gray 2013 Toyota Camry and a gray 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan were involved in a motor vehicle accident near the Cumberland Farms on Main Street. Airbags were deployed.

4:08 p.m.: Patrick William Lakeman of 1233 Whipple Road, in Tewksbury, was arrested for tagging property. This followed a caller on Lowell Street reporting a man with a bicycle laying in the middle of a path leading into the woods.

Thursday, March 6:

12:18 a.m.: Matthew Joseph Ackerman of 497 Wo-

burn St., in Wilmington, was arrested for leaving the scene of property damage, OUI-Liquor over .08%, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, a marked lanes violation, and negligent operation of a motor vehicle. This followed his black 2023 Toyota Camry being involved in a motor vehicle accident on West Street.

8:14 p.m.: A caller on Westdale Avenue reported that an hour beforehand, a suspicious man came to his door claiming to be making a delivery, despite the fact that he wasn't expecting any deliveries. The man was described as a middle-aged white man, about 5'10" and carrying a plastic bag. Police performed an exterior search of the property, but didn't find anything.

10:52 p.m.: Mairol Alexander Villar of 40 Fulton St., in Lawrence, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and speeding. This followed a stop of his gray 2024 Nissan Versa on Middlesex Avenue.

Wilmington students named to Dean's List at Emmanuel

BOSTON — In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 1,000 students to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

The following local stu-

dents were named to the Dean's List:

- Melanie Phares of Wilmington. Phares is a Biology major.
- Gabrielle Deverbiger of Wilmington. Deverbiger is a Nursing major.
- Adam Sulick of Wilmington. Sulick is a Sport Management major.
- Kylee Bevis of Wilmington. Bevis is a Nurs-

ing major.

• Matthew Mozuch of Wilmington. Mozuch is a Nursing major.

With more than 80 majors and areas of study, Emmanuel College combines outstanding classroom instruction and real-world experience to prepare students for lives of professional achievement, lifelong learning, and purpose.

Voted the #1 college location in America by Niche.com in 2023 and 2024, Emmanuel offers access to world class medical, cultural, and business organizations, all with a tight-knit 17-acre campus and 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio.

Learn more at Emmanuel.edu.

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Boston Metro Hi-Railers train club invites public to Open House on April 5

WILMINGTON — The Boston Metro Hi-Railers train club invites the public to see model trains run on its rebuilt layout. The spring event begins a year of special remembrances for train enthusiasts.

According to Trains magazine, 2025 marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of the first modern steam railroad in Great Britain. Closer to home, it was around 200

years ago that the first credible proposals for a railroad in the US were made. 2025 is also the 125th anniversary of Lionel, one of the oldest and largest manufacturers of model trains in the US, which is celebrating with special product offerings.

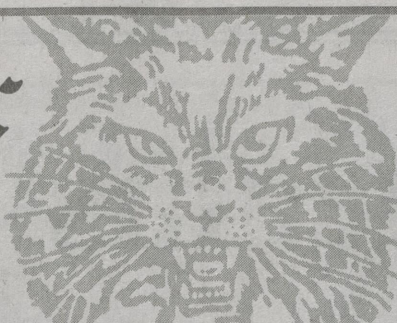
The price of admission to the Open House remains the same at \$5 per individual or \$10 per family. Doors open at 10 a.m.

and close at approximately 4 p.m. at the conclusion of a train set raffle.

A hands on layout is planned for kids of any age. Parking is available outside the Granite Place office and an elevator can take you to the second floor or you can use the stairs.

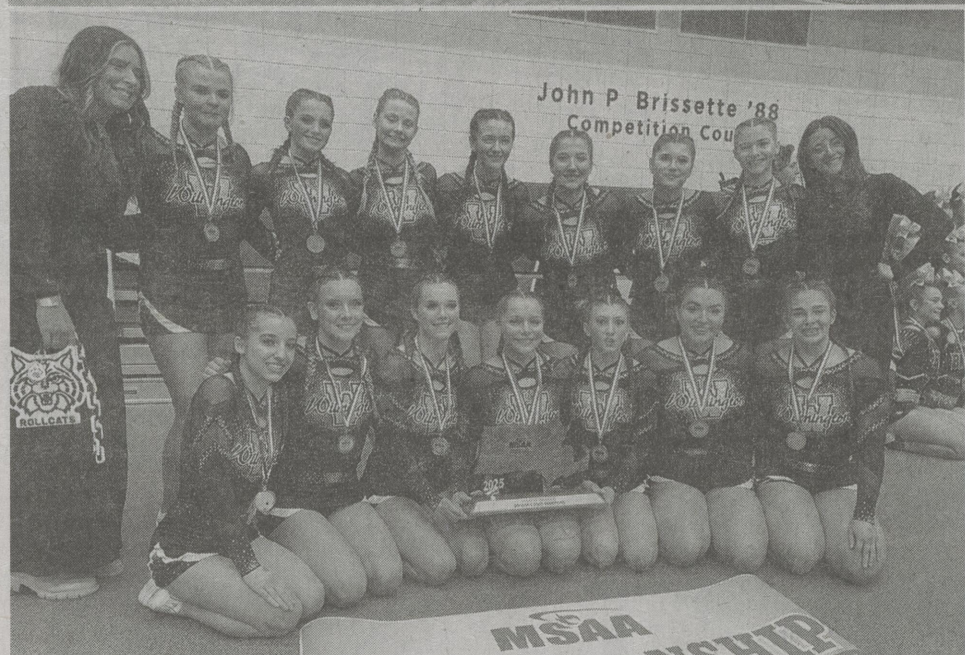
The Boston Metro Hi-Railers is a 501 C 3 Tax Exempt organization whose purpose is educational in

nature and looks forward to continuing and expanding the mission to "promote and encourage participation in the model railroading hobby through educational, nonprofit and charitable activities with emphasis on preserving our nation's railroading heritage through the maintenance, operation and demonstration of model railroading."



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

WHS cheerleaders are state champs



▲▲ The Wilmington High cheerleading squad recently won the Div. 3 state title. (Courtesy photos)

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High cheerleading team won the state's Div. 3 championship recently.

The Wildcats are coached by Kylie Bolarinho and assistant coach Shannon Barrett.

"Truthfully I'm at a loss for words with the win and it's the most incredible feeling," said Bolarinho. "The girls worked so hard to get

to this point and the overwhelming amount of excitement we've got from the town and school really makes the girls feel special! This team will go down in history for bringing home the first state championship trophy for cheerleading in 17 years. We could not have done it without our support from the school, the parents and so many others. Special shoutout to Deb Smith as well for always reminding the girls to never settle for mediocre.

Now let's get celebrating and get some rings."

Bella Iascone was the lone senior on the squad.

Juniors included Emma Chirichello, Erin Murray, Lilly McLaughlin, Isabella Cooper, Lily King and Maya Lanzi.

Sophomores on the championship roster include Hailey Reguera, Olivia Martinello, Gianna Jordan, Aubrey Annarelli and Ava Potvin.

Two freshmen on the team are Abby Joyce and Sofia Kenney.

College Sports:

DuCharme helps Bentley win NE-10

NCAA tournament run starts Friday night in Waltham

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

It's a four-peat in Waltham as the Bentley University Falcons are Northeast-10 Champions for the fourth consecutive year and the 24th time all-time.

Wilmington resident Kylie DuCharme is a key member of the Falcons.

Led by tournament MVP and graduate forward Maggie Whitmore (South Portland, Maine/South Portland HS), the Falcon women's basketball team claimed their fourth straight Northeast-10 championship with a 64-54 victory over sixth-seeded Assumption University Sunday afternoon on Barbara Stevens Court. Bentley, which secured the conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Division II East Regional, improved to 30-1 this season and extended Division II's longest winning streak to 26 games. Coach C White improved to 14-0 in NE10 tournament action and her program earned their 100th NE10 postseason victory all-time. The Falcons reached the 30-win mark for the 13th time overall and the first time since the national championship season since 2013-14.

"It's all about the players. They are the ones that did it," said White. "They bring it every single day. They prepare like every game is a championship game, whether it's film, practice or game. They took it one day

at a time, and that is how they did it."

Whitmore averaged 20 points in the tournament and provided 16 points, along with four rebounds, in the championship game.

"Maggie is unbelievable," said White. "How she leads is such an example of how great she is. Her unselfishness is why we are so successful."

Also scoring in doubles were seniors Amanda Kabantu (Portland, Maine/Portland HS) and DuCharme, along with sophomore guard Niya Morgen (Swampscott/St. Mary's HS).

Kabantu was outstanding with 16 points, six rebounds and three assists. Morgen came off the bench for 12 points and a career-best six boards, and DuCharme finished with 10 points, seven rebounds and four steals.

Kabantu and DuCharme joined Whitmore on the All-Championship team.

Assumption controlled the opening quarter, hitting 9 of 14 (64 percent) to outscore the Falcons 20-13. Senior forwards Kaijhe Hall (Maplewood, N.J.) and Marina Callahan (Burlington), both All-Championship Team selections, each scored six in the first, and Kabantu matched them for the Falcons.

Bentley opened the second quarter with nine unanswered to take their first lead of the afternoon. Morgen, the Division II leader in three-point accuracy, dropped in a long ball and



Kabantu scored on a drive. Back-to-back baskets from Whitmore, one inside the paint and the other a long jumper, put the Falcons up 22-20.

"We got back to our principles," said Whitmore, who was also the MVP in 2023. "We had to defend better."

After the Greyhounds briefly regained the lead, Whitmore hit a three from the right wing and DuCharme followed with an inside basket to complete the first-half scoring, 30-26.

Bentley kept the visitors off the scoreboard for the final four minutes and limited the Greyhounds to 23 percent shooting in the quarter, 3 of 13.

Early in the third, Bentley used an 8-3 spurt to go up 38-31. The last four were scored by Whitmore, on a drive and two from the charity stripe.

Assumption closed the third with six straight to draw within one, 45-44. Callahan had a pair of layups and graduate guard Molly Stokes (Worcester) stuck a 16-footer.

White's team came out strong to start the fourth, regaining control with an

▲▼ Kylie DuCharme of Wilmington helped the Bentley University women's basketball team win the Northeast-10 Conference title. The Falcons open play in the NCAA Div. 2 tournament on Friday at home in Waltham.

(Photos courtesy of Bentley University athletics)



11-2 run to go up ten, 56-46. Morgan and junior guard Cassidy Yeomans (Marion/Tabor Academy) connected from three, DuCharme scored inside and Kabantu converted a three-point play after a drive.

The Falcons had one more run in them, this one a late 6-0 spurt to go up 13, 63-50 with just under two minutes left. Whitmore scored and both Kabantu

and Yeomans sank two from the line.

Most of the team stats were relatively close with the exception of free throws and turnovers. Bentley got to the line 24 times, making 16, while Assumption was just five of 11. And the Falcons scored 14 off 14 Greyhound times, as compared the Hounds six off nine turns.

The four-peat was the

third in both Bentley and Northeast-10 history, following the Falcon teams of 1998-2001 and 2011-14.

The field and location for the NCAA Division II East Regional was announced on Sunday and the Falcons will open the playoffs on Friday at 5 p.m. with a home game against New Haven. Bentley is the top seed in its quarter of the draw.

WHS track teams wrapped up at postseason meets

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High winter track teams finished up their seasons at the MIAA Meet of Champions at the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday, February 22.

Five Wildcats were in action.

The girls 4x200 relay team ended up 17th in 1:49.2 with a quartet of Kayleigh Walker, Cate MacDonald, Isabel Carriere and Lexi LeBlanc. LeBlanc also finished 21st in the 55-meter dash in 7.54 seconds.

For the boys, Ashvin Baker ran the 300-meter dash and placed 19th in

36.4 seconds.

At the Div. 4 state meet, Wilmington had several competitors.

The meet started on a positive note as Giselle Olatilu set a personal best in the girls 55-meter hurdles with a time of 9.85 seconds to place 22nd.

Then in the trials of the girls 55 meter dash, LeBlanc ran the fastest time of the day with a 7.41 seconds.

MacDonald placed 18th overall with a time of 7.74 seconds.

In the boys 55 meter dash trials, Martin Philiossaint seriously spiked himself as he was coming out of the blocks. He ran 6.86 seconds to place 19th overall but he had

two cuts on his leg, one serious enough that his day was over and he was taken to the hospital to have it checked out for possible stitches.

In the finals of the girls 55-meter dash, LeBlanc was a little too quick and was called for a false start and was disqualified from the race.

In the boys mile, Jake Cronin, dealing with being sick, had a tough race and only ran 5:33.43 to place 24th. In the boys 600 meters, Cam Jenks placed 24th with a time of 1:32.40.

In the girls 1000 meters, Charlotte Kiley ran well and was close to her personal best time as she placed 12th with a time of 3:17.51.

In the boys 1000 meters, Evan Cummings placed 26th with a time of 2:56.72 and Cooper Holleran placed 28th with a time of 3:00.38.

In the girls 300 meters, Isabel Carriere ran a personal-best time of 43.97 to place 14th.

In the boys 300 meters, Baker placed sixth with a time of 36.13 seconds.

In the boys two mile run, Dean Ciampa ran a personal best of 10:12.28 to place sixth, while Gavin Dong ran 10:20.67 to place eighth and earn a medal.

Also running the two mile was David Dynan who had a personal best time of 10:55.33 to place 25th.

In the girls 4 x 200 relay, the girls ran their second fastest time of the season as they placed fourth in a time of 1:49.30.

The boys 4 x 200 relay of Baker, Marvins Jean, Jenks and Dean placed 13th with a time of 1:38.75.

The girls 4 x 800 relay team of Kiley, Cayley Israelson, Tessa Cappione and Bella Zaya ran well as they placed 17th in a time of 11:34.28.

The boys 4 x 800 relay team of Cummings, Parker Canevari, Dynan and Cronin placed 24th with a time of 9:42.49.

The boys 4 x 400 relay team of Jenks, Ciampa, Dong and Baker placed 15th with a time of

3:47.07.

In the field events, Olatilu continued her great day as in the high jump she tied her personal best with a jump of 4 feet, 8 inches which placed her 18th.

Also high jumping were Abby Engvaldson and Kaylin Mulik, but they were unable to clear the opening height of 4-8.

In the girls shot put, Abby Howie placed 10th with a throw of 29-5.5 and Maddie Krueger placed 12th with a throw of 29-1.75. In the girls long jump, LeBlanc had a difficult time and fouled all three of her attempts. In the boys long jump, Jean jumped 19-2.5 to place 15th in the competition.



▲ Coach Evan Applebaum talks his junior varsity boys basketball squad.

(Courtesy photo)

Wilmington boys JV hoops improved

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High junior varsity basketball team didn't go undefeated and didn't even win more games that it lost,

but by season's end, the Wildcats impressed coach Evan Applebaum with their perseverance and work ethic.

WHS won only one game, but improved throughout the season, the goal of any sub-varsity program.

"The end of the season was everything I could've asked for — plenty of improvement from every single player," Applebaum said. "We won our second-to-last game of the year, beating Burlington, 56-40. The game

prior, we lost to Melrose in an overtime heart-breaker, so that was huge for them to get a win."

With five freshman playing on junior varsity or varsity, Sanjeev Puvanendrakumar stepped up big time. As the

team's starting center, he averaged 16 points per game. Alongside him, shooting guard Bijon Pourshadi provided a huge spark on offense, while small forward Brody Wile averaged three blocks a game.

Other members of the squad included Kosta Chronopoulos, Tommy Demers, Nick Maninos, Colin Finn, Jessen Alfred, Will Da Cunha and Pierce Silveria.

Swimmers made a splash at league meet

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High-North Reading swim team competed at the Cape Ann League championship meet prior to the postseason meets and placed fourth overall and third in the boys competition.

Cole Falk led the way for the locals, winning the 100-yard butterfly in 53.07 seconds, more than five seconds faster than his closest competitor.

The team was third in

the 200-yard medley relay behind the foursome of Cole Falk, Spencer Bagtaz, Declan Savage and Ivan Deiko.

Falk was also second individually in the 200-yard freestyle in 1:47.41, just behind Triton Regional senior Josh Adler.

Bagtaz was second in the 100-yard freestyle in 52.28 seconds. Sameera Murthy was seventh in the race, Mahr was 10th and White was 15th.

Bagtaz was also second in the 100-yard backstroke and Savage was fourth.

In the 50-yard freestyle,

Murthy was seventh in 25.88 seconds. Other participants representing Wilmington/North Reading were Jon Mahr (12th), Cooper O'Shea (16th), Vijay Cudia (17th), Zach Tran (22nd), Patrick Roy (27th) and Nolan White (28th).

In the 500-yard freestyle, Savage placed fourth and Griffin Kelley took ninth.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Wilmington/North Reading was sixth behind the combination of Mahr, Murthy, Deiko and Cudia.

Deiko was also eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke and Cudia placed 11th. Kelley (13th) and Tran (14th) also competed.

Wilmington/North Reading took one other second-place performance from the foursome of Murthy, Bagtaz, Falk and Savage in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

On the girls side, Wilmington/North Reading was fifth overall.

The team was fourth in the 200-yard medley relay with a combination of Ella Dong, Emily Falk, Angelina Vo and Stella

Michaud.

In the 200-yard freestyle, Olivia Smith and Emily Cronin placed eighth and ninth, respectively, while Falk and Michaud were fifth and sixth in the 200-yard individual medley.

Falk also finished third in the 100-yard butterfly with Michaud taking fifth.

In the 100-yard freestyle, Vo was seventh, Molly Bagtaz was 15th and Gabriella Latson was 16th.

Smith was sixth in the 500-yard freestyle.

In the 50-yard freestyle,

Dong was eighth, Bagtaz took 32nd and Latson was 36th.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Dong, Michaud, Falk and Vo combined to take sixth while Cronin, Bagtaz, Smith and Latson were fifth in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Dong took fourth in the 100-yard backstroke and Cronin was 14th while Vo placed sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Gymnasts 11th at North sectional meet

By **DOUG HASTINGS**
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

At the postseason meets, the Wilmington High/Bedford High gymnastics team placed 11th at the North meet.

Lexie Masters of Bedford was seventh all-around with a total score of 37.1.

Sophomore Emma Callahan of Wilmington was 21 st with a score of 32.4. Callahan had an 8.475 on the vault, 7.450 on bars, 8.3 on the balance beam and 8.175 on the floor exercise.

Maddie Plurad of Bedford was 34th and Martina Andreeva of Wilmington was tied for 54th with a score of 21.9 with a 7.8

on vault highlighting her day.

Jordan Haering of Bedford and Isabelle Maeilla of Wilmington were also in action.

Other Wilmington residents on the team included Chanel Krang, Molly Lovell, Niamh McNeil and Lindsay Fontana.

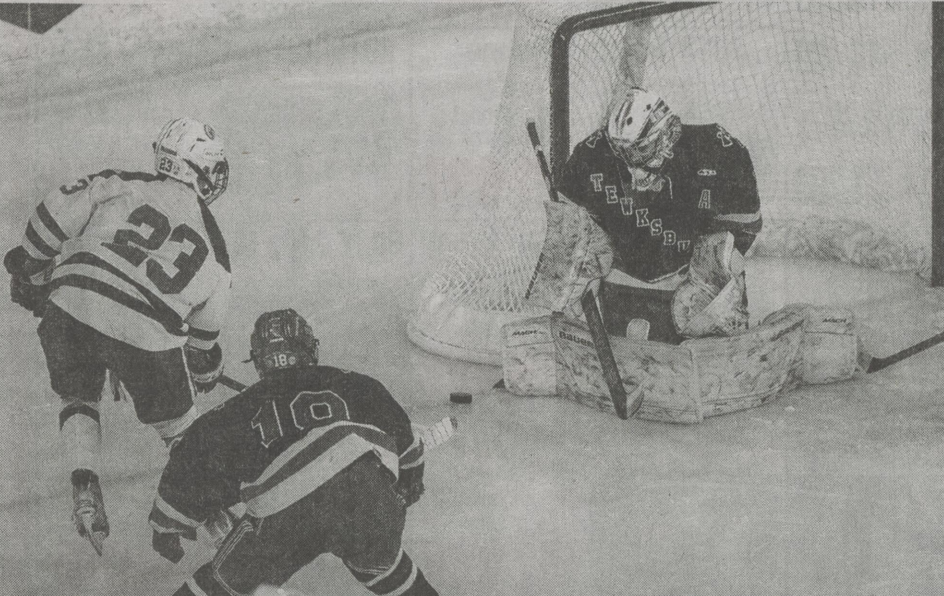
▶ Emma Callahan competes on the beam for the Wildcats.

(Joe Brown photo)



◀ Tewksbury goaltender David Karlberg blocks a shot on net from Billerica forward Ryan Johnson during Sunday's Division 2 boys hockey semifinal at the Tsongas Center. Tewksbury fell 2-1 in overtime.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)



Redmen lose a true classic in state semifinals

Boys hockey ties Billerica in final second, falls in overtime

By **SCOTT OLSZEWSKI**
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Tewksbury High boys hockey team managed to force overtime with 0.9 seconds left in the game on a goal by Jason Shreenan, but Billerica's Ryan Johnson would score the game winner 54 seconds into the extra session to defeat the Redmen 2-1 on Sunday afternoon at the Tsongas Center in Lowell.

The Div. 2 semifinal victory advanced the Indians to the state championship game.

Tewksbury had a chance 35 seconds into overtime, but Tyler Bourgea's shot hit the post.

"The kids played hard, and fought to the end," said TMHS coach Derek Doherty. "I thought Tyler had it at the end, but it didn't happen. (Goalie) David (Karlberg) did a great job and was the reason that we were able to force overtime. He could have easily given up four or five goals, but he came through with some great saves."

After a scoreless first period, Billerica took the lead five minutes into the second period.

Tewksbury carried the play in the first period as they outshot Billerica 13-8.

Both teams had scoring opportunities in the period.

With 7:22 in the first, Shreenan had the puck in the Indian zone. He passed back to the point to Jake Cunha, who sent a wrist shot through a screen in front, but Billerica goaltender Stephen MacIntosh came through with a glove save.

Billerica nearly took the lead with one second left in the period.

Cameron Penti was on the right post in the Redmen zone. He took a one timer off a centering pass, but Karlberg made a pad save to keep the game scoreless.

The Redmen controlled the play early in the second period, taking the first

six shots of the period.

Two minutes into the period, Shreenan carried into the Indian zone. He broke free in the right circle, but MacIntosh was able to make a glove save.

Billerica would score with 10:02 left in the second period.

James Columbus carried down the right boards into the Redmen zone. He cut into the right circle sending a wrist shot past Karlberg and just under the crossbar to give Billerica a 1-0 lead. Billerica nearly added to their lead with 2:01 left in the second. Billerica broke into the Tewksbury zone on a two on one. Thomas Egan sent a one timer on net, but Karlberg made a glove save.

"Billerica did a great job defending us, but the kids were tired, and we were missing a couple of key players," Doherty said. "The kids have done a great job making it this far, the finals last year, and the state title. Not a lot of programs can say they have had that kind of success."

The Indians controlled the play in the third period as they outshot Tewksbury, 14-6.

It would be Karlberg that

kept the Redmen in the game.

Three minutes into the third period, Anthony Parrella broke free in the right circle of the Tewksbury zone. He sent a wrist shot on net, but Karlberg made a pad save.

With 8:30 left in the game, Billerica again broke into the Redmen zone. Egan was alone in the slot in front of the net, but his wrist shot from 15 feet out was denied by Karlberg with a quick glove save.

It didn't look good for Tewksbury as the Redmen collected a clearing pass outside the Billerica blue line with 12 seconds left. Anthony DiFranco passed to Bourgea, who sent a pass from the right boards in front to Shreenan who redirected the puck past MacIntosh with 0.9 seconds left in the game to send it to overtime.

In overtime, Tewksbury won the opening faceoff as Bourgea carried into the zone beating two defenders. He sent a backhand on net from 10 feet out, but the puck hit the post.

Billerica came back down the ice.

Nolan Dawson passed to Johnson, who carried down the left side into the Tewksbury zone. He sent

a drive from the left circle that went just inside the right post and into the net 54 seconds into overtime for the 2-1 final.

Tewksbury finishes the season 18-5-1.

QUARTERFINAL VICTORY

In the quarterfinals, Tewksbury defeated Malden Catholic, 5-2.

The Redmen took a 3-0 lead after the first period and never looked back.

Jake Cunha led the scoring for Tewksbury with two goals and two assists. Jason Lavoie had a goal and assisted with Anthony DiFranco scoring the game-winning goal for Tewksbury.

The key to the game would be in the first period when the Redmen had to kill a five-minute major but did not give up a goal, holding the Lancers to one shot.

TMHS also came through on the power play, scoring three times.

Karlberg got the win in net as Tewksbury outshot Malden Catholic, 34-19.

"The focus tonight was to try to get a lead it would be tough for them to get back into the game," said Doherty. "We went three lines hard, and the kids

did a great job forechecking, playing the body, and forcing them to give the puck up. The kids also did a great job killing of the five minute major. They stepped up and did not let them in our zone."

Tewksbury needed just over four minutes to take the lead.

Jackson Feudo had the puck in the left circle of the Lancer zone. He passed back to Cunha at the point. He sent a wrist shot through a screen in front past Lancer goaltender Connor Fitzpatrick.

The Redmen made it a 2-0 game with 8:43 left in the period while on the power play. Tyler Bourgea set up Michael Macaуда at the point. Like Cunha he sent a drive through traffic in front past Fitzpatrick to give Tewksbury a 2-0 lead.

"Our power play is good," Doherty said. "We move the puck well, and I don't worry about giving up a shorthanded goal. We have a lot of skilled players that create opportunities. Karlberg has been playing really well. He has been focused and confident."

With 8:02 left, TMHS was called for its five-minute major.

The Lancers could not break through the defense

of Tewksbury as they were held to one shot. They carried the momentum late in the period adding to their lead with 1:09 left in the period. Lavoie had the puck in the Lancer zone. His shot was blocked by Fitzpatrick, but the puck came loose in front of the net. DiFranco was able to send the puck into the open net to make it a 3-0 game.

Malden Catholic started to carry the play early in the second period.

With 12:30 left in the game Steven Streeter and Michael Doe broke into the Redmen zone. Doe passed in front to Streeter for a one timer, but Karlberg made a glove save to keep Malden Catholic off the board.

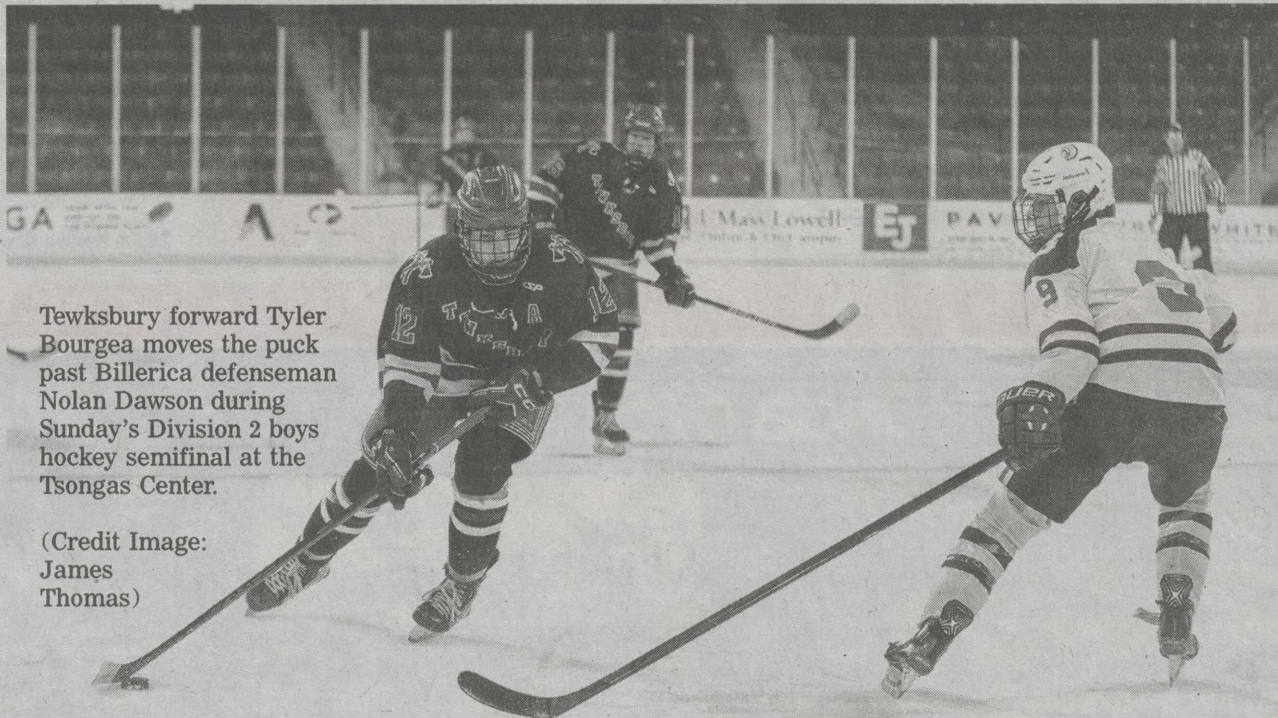
The Lancers were able to finally score with 11:39 left in the second period. Streeter had the pack in the Redmen zone. He passed in front of the net to Doe who sent a wrist shot from fifteen feet out past Karlberg to cut the lead to two.

Tewksbury was able to survive the early pressure and was able to add to its lead with 3:41 left in the second again on the power play.

Cunha had the puck at the right point in the Lancer zone. He sent a wrist shot on net that was redirected in front by Lavoie past Fitzpatrick to give Tewksbury a 4-1 lead.

The Lancers would not quit and cut the lead to two with 4:27 left in the game. Brody MacMaster broke free in the left circle of the Redmen zone. He collected a cross-ice pass sending a wrist shot past Karlberg to make it a 4-2 game.

Malden Catholic pulled the goalie with two minutes left in the game. They carried the play in the Tewksbury zone, but the defense held not allowing any scoring chances. Cunha ended the game with 43 seconds left sending a shot from just outside the red line into the open net for the 5-2 final.



Tewksbury forward Tyler Bourgea moves the puck past Billerica defenseman Nolan Dawson during Sunday's Division 2 boys hockey semifinal at the Tsongas Center.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)



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HONDA

OBITUARIES

James M. 'Jimmy' Capozzi Served in the US Army during Vietnam

James M. "Jimmy" Capozzi, passed away peacefully on March 8, 2025, after a courageous battle with prostate cancer.



He was born on Oct. 17, 1948, in Winthrop, to the late James V. and Dorothy E. (Blangio) Capozzi.

Jimmy and family moved from East Boston to Wilmington where he would reside the rest of his life. Jimmy graduated from Wilmington High School in 1966 and afterwards served in the US Army as a part of the 11th Armored Cavalry during the Vietnam War. Jimmy was awarded a Purple Heart and was honorably discharged in 1971.

Jimmy earned a Criminal Justice degree from Northeastern University where he graduated magna cum laude. He later went on to become a Registry of Motor Vehicles Inspector, a Hearings Officer, and the Supervisor of Professional Auto Schools throughout Massachusetts. Jimmy later retired as a

Massachusetts State Trooper.

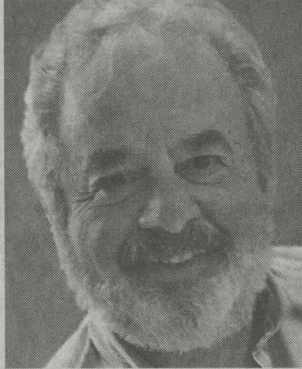
Jimmy met the love of his life, Debra, while working at the Registry in Worcester. They later married on Oct. 12, 1986; they shared 38 beautiful years together, raised two wonderful kids, and had many great times together as a family.

Jimmy had an amazing sense of humor and knew how to tell a good joke. He enjoyed playing cribbage and other card games and had a passion for horse racing. Jimmy was an avid sports fan who enjoyed watching all the Boston sports teams.

He is survived by his loving wife Debra M. Capozzi, his son Matthew and his wife McKenzie, his daughter Lisa and her husband Ross.

He was the beloved brother of Robert and his wife Wendy, Carl and his wife Nancy, Paul and his wife Julie.

Jimmy is further survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends who will miss him dearly.



A visitation will be held on Sunday, March 16 from 1-4 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62) in Wilmington, MA. A celebration of Jimmy's life will be held from 4:30-8:30 at the Knights of Columbus, 112 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, where friends and family can gather to share stories and memories.

In lieu of flowers donations in Jimmy's memory may be made to Local Heroes, Inc., P.O. Box 536, Wilmington, MA 01887.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Susan Green Curtis Retired pastor and registered nurse

Susan Green Curtis, age 87, recently of Peabody, a former longtime Wilmington and Tewksbury resident, passed away peacefully after several months of declining health on Friday, Feb. 28, 2025.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Ivan on Feb. 28, 2021.

Born in New Bedford on Nov. 6, 1937, she was the daughter of the late Gilbert George Green and the late Elsie Maude Kelley Green.

Susan graduated from New Bedford High School in 1955 and went on to attend the New England Baptist School of Nursing where she became a registered nurse. Later in her life, she graduated from Emmanuel College in Boston with a dual degree in Psychology and Theology. Afterward she graduated from Andover Newton Theological School with her Master of Divinity degree.

She was ordained a Deacon in the church of God on June 10, 1983.

Susan went on to serve the Memorial United Methodist Church in Beverly as well as The Tewksbury United Methodist Church before she retired. Whether as a nurse or a pastor,

Susan dedicated her career to caring for others.

Susan and Ivan were married in New Bedford on Oct. 16, 1958, and enjoyed 62 years of marriage. They initially lived in Keene, New Hampshire and then moved to Wilmington to raise their family.

Susan enjoyed music, especially singing and playing the piano and organ. In her retirement years, she gave piano lessons in her home to local children.

She was also a very active member of the Wilmington United Methodist Church as well as Tewksbury Methodist Church and in her later years, St. Elizabeth's Episcopal church in Wilmington.

She loved to read the Bible and often participated and led Bible studies at church and at home. She also liked to draw and write and was in the process of writing a novel she began in her later years.

Susan enjoyed canoeing, swimming, birdwatching, during many summers on Keewaydin Lake in Maine where she and Ivan had a summer cottage. Susan was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend.

Susan leaves her daughter, Deborah Susan Pike and her husband Glenn of



Essex, and her son David P. Curtis and his wife Kathryn of Tewksbury.

She is also survived by her four grandchildren, Benjamin Pike of Essex, Jared Pike of New York City and Kathryn and Jason Curtis of Tewksbury.

Susan was predeceased by three siblings, George and Donald Green and A. Janet Green Treadup.

A memorial service will be held at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Chapel, 4 Forest St., Wilmington on Saturday, June 21 at 11 a.m. Interment of Susan's ashes will be at the Hillside Cemetery, Stoneham Maine during the upcoming summer.

Donations honoring her memory may be made to the charity of one's choosing, or to St. Elizabeth's Church, 4 Forest St, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Stella (Kasianowich) Courtney Worked at State House, Tewksbury Hospital

Stella (Kasianowich) Courtney, age 96, a long-time resident of Wilmington, passed away on March 4, 2025.

Stella was born on Nov. 27, 1928, in Rockville, CT; she was the cherished only child of Peter and Salomea "Sally" (Cyburt) Kasianowich. Stella was raised in Rockville and graduated from Rockville High School with the Class of 1946.

Stella was a dedicated student and always eager to learn; she graduated from Boston University, where she earned her master's degree in finance. While attending, she met "the love of her life" Joseph Courtney.

Stella and Joe were married on April 18, 1953, in Connecticut; they settled in Wilmington, where they were involved in the community. Joe served as the town manager of Wilmington and Stella was always supportive of his political endeavors.

Stella and Joe shared many wonderful memories

of gardening, cooking and caring for their home before his passing in 2001.

Stella was extremely intelligent with a strong work ethic; she started her career as a court stenographer and took great pride in her work and excelled in everything she did. Stella went on to continue her career in the accounting and finance department at the State House in Boston.

Her dedication and expertise excelled her into a senior management position of the state financing and budget office. She worked for many years before finishing her career at Tewksbury State Hospital, as the head of the budget and finance department.

Stella was well educated and exhibited her sophistication with her ability to speak three languages, (English, Polish and Russian). One of her main loves was her love of animals, especially her poodles.

Stella was a strong and independent woman who



enjoyed gardening and time socializing with friends at the gatherings in their home.

Family and friends gathered for a Funeral Service at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave., (Rt. 62), Wilmington on Tuesday, March 11 at 11 a.m. Interment followed in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

Memorial donations in Stella's name may be made to the MSPCA-Nevins Farm, 400 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Helen F. (Cahill) Russo Funeral services will take place on March 18

Helen F. (Cahill) Russo, age 90, of Sarasota, FL, formerly a long-time resident of Billerica, passed away peacefully on March 10, 2025.

Helen was born in Woburn on Jan. 3, 1935; she was the cherished daughter of the late Patrick and Hannah (Hirrel) Cahill. Helen was raised in a large Irish family and was one of nine siblings.

Helen was the beloved wife of the late Columbus "Chris" Russo, devoted mother of the late David Russo, dear sister of Ronald Cahill and his wife Donna of Sarasota, FL and Mash-

pee, and she is predeceased by her siblings Anna Meuse, James Cahill, John Cahill, Margaret Webster, Hubert Cahill, Thomas Cahill, and Kathy Light.

She was the sister-in-law of Anna Lisacki of Woburn and Bernice Russo of Wilmington.

Helen is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and their families.

Family and friends will gather for Visitation from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington, on Tuesday, March 18, followed by a service at 12:30 p.m.



Interment will take place in Fox Hill Cemetery, 130 Andover St., Billerica.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Denis Alexander Hanegan Retired Teamster known as 'The Rebel'

Denis Alexander Hanegan Sr., age 91, a 49-year resident of Wilmington passed away peacefully at his home on March 8, 2025 surrounded by his family.

Born in Bassfield, Mississippi, he was a beloved son of the late Richard Bonaventure Hanegan and Lucy Idell Daley Hanegan.

Denis was a loving husband, father and grandfather with a great sense of humor. He was a retired Teamster, fondly known as "The Rebel."

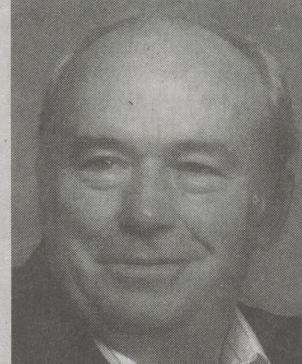
When he retired he devoted his time to his grandchildren and each of them knew they could count on him for anything. He loved his country music, old western movies and sports — especially the Patriots and the Red Sox.

Denis is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Mary Ann (Wojciechowski) Hanegan; five children, Sheila "Denise" Bridgman, Denis Hanegan Jr., Richard Hanegan and his wife Paulina, Deborah

Tetreault and her husband Louis, and Karen Hanegan; five grandchildren, Crystal Bridegam, Cheryl Baranow and her husband Bryan, Nicole Tetreault, Daniel Tetreault, and Richard "Ricky" Hanegan II; two great-grandchildren Evelyn and Mason Bridegam; four siblings, Joe Hanegan, Lawrence Hanegan, Ralph Hanegan, and Bernice Daley; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Denis was preceded in death by one grandchild Pacqstan Bridegam; and seven siblings Catherine Smith, Joan "Jo Ann" Norsworthy, Richard "Bonny" Hanegan, Malachy Hanegan, Stanley Hanegan, Charles Hanegan, and Helen Reed.

Family received friends and loved ones on Tuesday, March 11 from 5 - 8 p.m. at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington. All were welcomed to gather for a Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 12 at St. Thomas of



Villanova Church, 126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington. Burial followed at Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to end polio though Rotary partnered with The Global Polio Eradication Initiative in Denis's memory. He was a polio survivor and this organization helps to educate and eradicate the disease.

Link: <https://my.rotary.org/en/polioplus-fund>

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Friends of the Wilmington Public Library now included

Stoneham M E Federal Credit Union expands field of membership

STONEHAM — Stoneham Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union is excited to share that its field of membership has been expanded to include the Friends of the Wilmington Memorial Library.

Ann Marie Waugh, President and CEO of Stoneham Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union, shared her enthusiasm about the new partnership.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Friends of the Wilmington Memorial Library into our growing

membership. This expansion allows us to serve the Wilmington community and beyond, ensuring that safe, reliable banking options are available through our partners. Stoneham Municipal Employees Credit Union and Friends of the Wilmington Memorial Library share a common commitment to serving our communities, and by working together, we look forward to making a lasting impact on the lives of Wilmington residents and fostering continued communi-

ty growth."

Stoneham M E Federal Credit Union is a member-owned and operated financial institution providing a reliable, secure, and friendly environment to meet everyday banking needs in the communities of Stoneham, Melrose, Wilmington, North Reading, Reading, Middleton, and Wakefield, Massachusetts.

To learn more about Stoneham M E Federal Credit Union and its products and services, visit www.smefcu.org.

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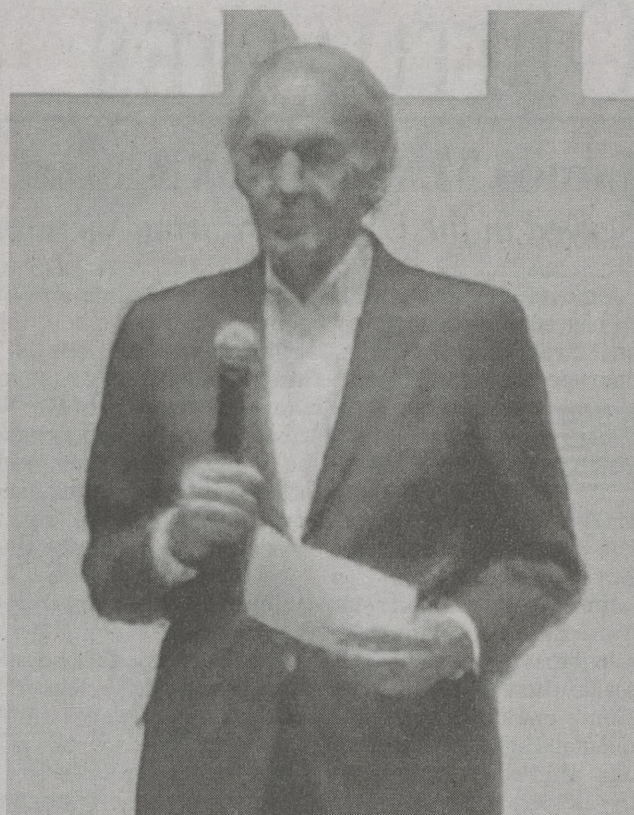
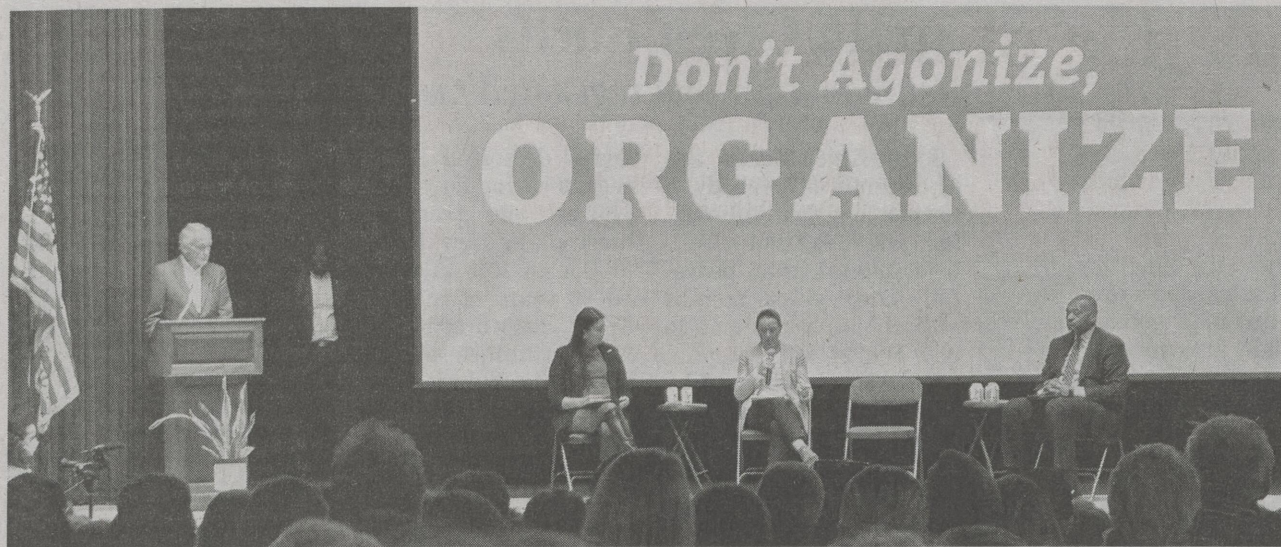
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Wilmington Town Crier & Tewksbury Town Crier



▲► U.S. Senator Ed Markey held a Town Hall event at Malden High School on Saturday, March 8. Guest speakers included Jessica Tang, Casey Bowers, and Dr. Michael Curry. (Heather Burns photos)

Senator Ed Markey hosts Town Hall at Malden High

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

MALDEN — On Saturday, March 8, 2025, Massachusetts U.S. Senator Ed Markey held a Town Hall event at Malden High School.

Over 1,500 residents from many areas of Massachusetts came to participate in the public question and answer forum.

A small group of pro-Trump protesters as well as those against the Trump administration gathered outside on the sidewalk, but there was a visual police presence, and all protesters remained peaceful.

Also in attendance at the Town Hall event were multiple state senators, representatives and local mayors including the Mayor of Malden, Gary Christenson.

Markey, who is a native of the City of Malden, held this event to answer voters' questions and bring supporters together as Massachusetts residents struggle with the abrupt changes that are happening in Washington, and how those changes will affect residents here in Massachusetts.

Guest speakers at this event included Dr. Michael Curry, President of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Jessica Tang, the Massachusetts President of the American Federation of Teachers and Casey Bowers, the Action Fund Executive Director for the Environmental League of Massachusetts.

The afternoon event started with Sen. Markey addressing some of the many problematic closures and planned budget cuts made by the Trump administration and how they

will affect the citizens of Massachusetts.

At times his speech became heated and passionate, and Sen. Markey tried to lighten the mood by explaining, "Donald Trump is bringing out the Malden in me!"

Both Sen. Markey and each of his guest speakers addressed specific impacts some of the closures and proposed tax cuts will have on Massachusetts communities, such as the plans to cut 880 billion out of the Medicaid system and how that could affect the two million people in Massachusetts that are currently on Medicaid, including Alzheimer patients and nursing home residents.

Guest speaker Tang spoke on the impact of removing title 1 funding, and noted that without proper federal funding, most school systems in the Commonwealth will be devastated, causing the firing of teachers and aids, noting that there is already a shortage of teachers in Massachusetts.

Questions for the Q & A part of the event were submitted in advance and randomly chosen by State Senator Jason Lewis from a basket. Authors of the question were then called to the microphone to pose their question.

Question topics ranged from questions regarding upholding the Constitution and the challenges made on our judicial system, to providing aid for Ukraine, and protecting much needed benefits for disabled and special needs children.

Erica T., an A.P. Government school teacher from Medford was worried about the lack of kindness and compassion coming from

the president and vice president, and wondered what type of lesson this behavior is teaching young students.

She also questioned how the Constitution would be upheld by an administration that is bypassing Congress with a multitude of executive orders, questioning, "Do checks and balances still exist?"

Markey assured her we do have checks and balances, stating, "We on the floor of the House and Senate need to fight back and block."

Dylan J., a federal worker on Pepperall said, "I'm a federal employee, can you tell me what congressional Democrats are going to do to protect me?"

When Markey responded with a response that pointed out the recent federal employee firing was because of Elon Musk and DOGE, but didn't really answer how Congress could protect these jobs, some audience members became angry, shouting out of turn, "Answer the question!"

Markey's message in the end was that all Democratic Congress members must reach across the aisle to Republicans and work with those willing to stand up to decisions the Trump administration is making that will negatively impact their own constituents.

Markey also implored all citizens to spread the truth about the changes that are happening to friends and neighbors through social media in an effort to support those in Congress that are willing to fight back.

"We will be fighting for you every single day," Markey stated.

Melrose-Wakefield branch of American Association of University Women offers two scholarships

MELROSE — A branch scholarship, which is in the amount of \$1,500, is available as a result of the fundraising activities of the branch and donations received in memory of branch members and their loved ones.

This year, the branch scholarship will be given in memory of Phyllis Blacklock, late of Melrose, who passed away in October, 2024. Phyllis was a graduate of Woburn High School, where she was the valedictorian of her class, and she received her Bachelor's degree from Tufts University.

She was a teacher, a writer and an avid traveler. She was a member of AAUW for decades and served as President of the Branch from 1977 to 1979. She was also active in the League of Women Voters.

The other scholarship, which is in the amount of

\$1,000, is offered from the Diana L. Goldblith Scholarship Fund, which was established by donations from Mrs. Goldblith's family and friends following her sudden death in June 1990.

Mrs. Goldblith, a longtime Melrose resident, was an active and enthusiastic participant in AAUW's Literature Group, Great Decisions Group, and Stellar Investment Club.

To be eligible, one must be a resident of Melrose, Wakefield, North Reading, Georgetown, Wilmington, Cambridge, Saugus, or Georgetown, Maine.

These are all communities from which the branch derives members this year. In addition, one must attend or be a graduate of a four-year AAUW-accredited college or university, and must have completed at least two years of study prior to the fall of 2025.

Special consideration will be given to applicants who have maintained high academic standing and can demonstrate a need for the scholarship for a specific purpose related to educational goals. All applications will be processed anonymously.

Applications are available at the Branch website — aauwmmw.wordpress.com/scholarships/

To receive an application, candidates may also send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

AAUW Scholarship
c/o Sullivan & Clark
608 Main Street
Melrose, MA 02176

Or send an email request to jac_sullivanandclark@comcast.net

Applications are available immediately and must be returned by April 16, 2025. The recipients of the scholarships will be notified prior to May 14, 2025.

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **April 1, 2025 at 7:30p.m.** in Room 9 in Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Sign Special Permit #25-04, plan entitled, "Closet Factory"; dated May 15, 2024, last revised January 24, 2025, prepared by Spectrum Signs & Graphics, 97 Eddy Rd, Manchester, NH 03102. The application is for the installation of a 62.62sf wall sign. Said property is located at 355 Middlesex Avenue and shown on Assessor's Map 79 Parcel 31.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during normal business hours.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
250250 3/13/2025

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **April 1, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.** in Room 9 in Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Definitive Subdivision Plan #25-01, and Stormwater Management Permit #25-03, plan entitled, "Definitive Subdivision, Gowing Road Extension"; dated February 27, 2025, prepared by Scott M. Cerrato, P.L.S., and Luke J. Roy, P.E., LJR Engineering, Inc., 234 Park Street, North Reading, MA 01864. This subdivision is for six (6) single-family lots. Said property is located at 15 Gowing Road and 43 Marcus Road and shown on Assessor's Map 92 Parcels 11 & 12.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during normal business hours.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
250252 3/13/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT

MIDDLESEX, SS:
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
DOCKET NO. M125E0006PP

To:
Simone Roy of Tewksbury, MA,
James McGilvery of Tewksbury,
MA and to all other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by, Simone Roy representing that they hold as a Joint Tenant in an undivided part or share of certain land lying in Tewksbury in the County of Middlesex, and briefly described as

33 Grasshopper Lane,
Tewksbury, MA 01876

The following described real estate property situate in the City of Tewksbury, County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to wit:

Being shown as Lot 40, Grasshopper Lane, as shown on a plan entitled, "Sub-Division Plan of Chandler Street Acres, Tewksbury, Massachusetts, dated December 22, 1953, Dana F. Perkins & Sons, Inc. surveyors, recorded with Middlesex North District Deeds, Book of Plans 84 and bounded and described as follows:

Westerly by Grasshopper Lane, one hundred (100) feet;

Northerly by Lot 41, as shown on said plan, one hundred nineteen and 24/100 (119.24) feet;

Easterly by parts of Lots 35 and 36, one hundred and 66/100 (100.66) feet; and

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website.

To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:

www.homenewshere.com

OR

masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

The Wilmington Finance Committee will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Auditorium on all the warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting to be held on May 3, 2025. This meeting will be held jointly with the Planning Board.

John F. Doherty, Chairman
Finance Committee
250239 3/13/25

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 20, 2025

6:00 P.M.

Tewksbury Town Hall

The Tewksbury Community Preservation Committee will conduct a public informal hearing to discuss the needs and possibilities of the Town regarding community preservation possibilities and resources.

The Committee will be available to discuss its application and evaluation criteria for funding projects with Community Preservation Funds.

John Deputat, Chair
250227 3/6, 13/25

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **March 27, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **John Hunt on behalf of Thomas Craig** for variances under Section 5.3.2 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, for maximum lot coverage & front setbacks to construct a 15' x 36' addition as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **100 FLORIDA RD** Assessor's Map 81, Lot 237 zoned Residence 40 (R40).

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on

www.masspublicnotices.org
Nancy Rego, Chair
250236 2/13, 20/25

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **March 27, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Richard Cuoco on behalf of June C. Cooney for variances under Section 5.3.2 for minimum frontage, Section 5.3.1.A.2 for minimum lot width, and a Special Permit under Section 8.1.3.A to make a nonconforming lot, to construct a single-family home as shown on plans filed with this Board

Said property is located at 0 Livingston Street. Assessor's Map 77, Lot 20, zoned Residential.

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on

www.masspublicnotices.org
Nancy Rego, Chair
250254 2/13, 20/25

Southerly by Lot 39, as shown on said plan, one hundred seven and 74/100 (107.74) Feet.

Containing 11,349 +/- feet of land according to said plan, more or less.

Property Address: 33 Grasshopper Lane, Tewksbury, MA 01876

For title see Deed dated January 5, 1967 and recorded with Middlesex North Registry of Deeds at Book 1781, Page 448.

Setting forth that the petitioner desires that all said land may be ordered to be sold at a **private or public sale for not less than (\$545,000.00) FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS**, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end, the commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any portion of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided, either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute and pay over the net proceeds thereof in such a manner as to make the partition just and equal.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said Court at Lowell before ten o'clock on the 16th Day of April 2025 the return date of this citation.

Witness, Honorable Terri Klug-Cafazza, First Justice of this Court, this **19th day** of February in the year of our Lord **Two Thousand and Twenty-Five**.

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register Of Probate

250262 3/13, 20, 27/25

Board approves installation of utility pole on Faulkner Ave

SPACES FROM PAGE 1

Kevin Caira specifically called out that the DPW reviewed the request and recommended approval.

Slagle also added that Town Engineer Paul Alunni and the Department of Planning and Conservation recommended approval. The board voted to approve the pole's installation.

Next, the board approved a request from John Asimakopoulos for a common victualer license for Uncle John's Ice Creamery, to be located at 248 Main St. Asimakopoulos

described he would make about 20-25 hard ice cream flavors at this parlor, to be open Wednesday through Sunday 12 - 8 p.m. or 12 - 9 p.m. He said the previous tenant in this storefront was Flaherty Jewelers.

Lilia Maselli asked how he got into this business. Asimakopoulos answered that he always loved watching his parents bake and he had an affinity for junk food, and in the past few years he'd begun researching to make his own ice cream. He decided to make it into a business.

DPW Director Jamie Magaldi wrote two letters to

the board that night — one to notify them that the town now had to follow the 10-year water registration as the challenge had failed, and the other that they had submitted a draft vegetation management plan.

They also received memos from Wilmington Little League inviting the board to attend the opening day ceremony, Governor Maura Healey regarding the funding formula for Chapter 90 funds and Kovalus Separation Solutions that they would be laying off about 100 employees.

The board later voted to

adopt the established tool and process for evaluating the town manager, to ratify the appointment of Charles Protopapas as a member of RMLD's Citizens' Advisory Board and to meet on July 14 and Aug. 18.

They also approved requests to use the Town Beach for a Polar Plunge, Code 1 BBQ to update their common victualer license to the new location in the Market Basket Plaza and lighting the town common blue in April for autism awareness.

MacDonald accused the board of being "disrespectful" by their lack of

action seeking an exemption from the MBTA Communities Zoning Act in public comment.

He called the new elementary school a "monstrosity" and said it was a shame to knock down the North Intermediate School when the town has spent money on its upkeep.

He lastly took issue with the cost of \$32,000 per student for an education at Shawsheen Tech compared to \$18,000 at WPS, along with the possibility of students being denied entrance into preferred trade classes.

In new business, Caira

asked if there was progress seeking a new OPM for the elementary school project, as SMMA's contract would run out at the end of April. Slagle promised a response at their next meeting.

The Salute to Service that night went out to US Army Veteran James M. Capozzi, who Bendel sadly shared passed away just over the weekend. Bendel mentioned that Capozzi served from 1969 to 1970 and earned several medals including the purple heart medal and the national defense service medal.

Board shares concerns over MBTA Community law

SELECT FROM PAGE 1

and then the attorney general could get a court order which would allow another period of time to meet the statute.

After that, if they continued not to be able to demonstrate compliance, the attorney would request permission to write the zoning for the town. This could potentially be very broad strokes or it could be based on the action plan the town provided — it just depends on the desire of the attorney general's office.

Maselli said, "We can fight this to the bitter end but we're going to lose."

However, she said she would still be willing to let the town fall out of compliance until the attorney general enforces the requirement.

Slagle reminded the audience that the town pays the cost of hosting a Town Meeting to take up the vote on the zoning proposal.

Maselli maintained that the meeting would be fruit-

less if residents continue to vote against the proposal.

Gary DePalma shared concern about the attorney general's office creating a large multi-family as of right zoning area in town.

"My fear is that they'll force something on us even worse than the plans we made," he said.

Frank West shared that he would vote against the zoning district. He suggested that the state truly wants to see the 1,248 units built in the zone required to have space for them. He said that the requirement does not truly create affordable housing to help people afford to live here, and he saw no benefit to meeting the requirement.

He suggested to the other board members that they pursue an exemption to the HLC guidelines in an extension.

Bendel provided that he discussed this with the town manager and wanted to put a related item on their agenda, but they were

still waiting to hear back from town counsel. He hoped to be able to add an item to their March 24 agenda once they do have the legal opinion and other information.

Town Manager Eric Slagle added that KPLaw indicated that the legislature could vote to remove the exemption even if Wilmington is able to seek it temporarily.

Gingrich did mention that they were also proposing to require 15 percent affordable units in the proposed zoning district.

West asked to confirm that the zoning district article required a vote of just over 50 percent majority and the second article about the affordability percentage required a two-thirds majority, which Gingrich said is correct.

Kevin Caira merely said he agreed with his colleagues.

Gingrich also invited any residents to reach out to her office with any questions or concerns.

Board recommends ZBA not approve variance for Mink Run

PLANNING FROM PAGE 1

lighting plan and fire hydrants per the feedback of the town engineer and the fire department.

They also updated the plan for the gas company who requested that material bins be moved as far away from the gas pipeline location as possible but were still seeking to define a stockpile area elsewhere on the site.

Attorney Mike Newhouse added that they would be filing with the Zoning Board of Appeals. Roy mentioned that they would also be subject to review from the Conservation Commission. The Planning Board continued this project to April 1.

Planner/Economic Development Coordinator Jayne Wierzbicki provided regarding the Board of Appeals case for 95 Mink Run Road that they were requesting a variance from the side and rear setbacks to construct an additional 440 square feet. They stated that their family member

had a disorder causing muscle weakness.

Deanna Craig pointed out that this is not within the town's definition of a hardship. Chair Terence Boland suggested that they use the land on the other side of the house where there's room before the setback. The board's recommendation was for the Board of Appeals not to approve the request.

They voted to table the endorsement of 21A Concord Street's site plan review, as they were still awaiting more information, but they voted to endorse the conditions for the definitive subdivision at 708R Woburn St. and the site plan review at 226 Lowell St.

Gingrich lastly delivered an update regarding the as of right multi-family zoning district required by the HLC guidelines. She stated that the new regulations have new deadlines. The town submitted a new action plan for interim compliance in February. The new deadline to have the

zone in place was July 14.

She included that the Select Board would be opening and closing the special Town Meeting warrant for May 3 which contained the two articles related to the multi-family as of right zoning district. These articles were separated from the annual Town Meeting warrant so that they could take them up early in the meeting, and interested parties could know to attend from the beginning of the meeting.

Gingrich also shared that she and Wierzbicki had some outreach planned, including a visit to the senior center and open office hours. She invited the board members to assist in getting the word out about the proposal.

There was also a joint Finance Committee and Planning Board public hearing to discuss the Town Meeting warrant articles scheduled for March 18 at 7 p.m.

The next regular Planning Board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Shriners Circus coming back to Wilmington

WILMINGTON —La-

dies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, the Shriners Circus is back with an all-new show. Presented by the Aleppo Shriners at the Shriners Auditorium in Wilmington, the circus returns with nine shows during April school vacation.

"The Aleppo Shriners are proud to once again present a fun-filled extravaganza for young and old," said Roger Metcalfe, Shriners Circus Chairman. "This year's circus will feature returning favorites and all new acts from some of the best performers and entertainers in the country."

Nine performances will run from Thursday, April 24 - Sunday, April 27, 2025:

• Thursday, April 24: 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.

• Friday, April 25: 11

a.m. & 3 p.m.

• Saturday, April 26: 10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

• Sunday, April 27: 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.

Highlights of the 2025 Shriners Circus include: aerialists, dancers, flying acrobats, death defying stuntmen, and a human cannonball.

By popular demand The Chicago Boyz Acrobatic Team, featured on the NBC hit reality competition series America's Got Talent are also returning. Of course, the famous Aleppo Clowns will spread laughter and silliness throughout the arena. No exotic animals will be performing at the circus.

Due to popular demand the Celebrity Ringmaster program is back. Some of Boston's most popular TV and radio personalities will intro-

duce the different shows. They might even get in on the act with the Shriners clowns.

Purchase tickets to the 2025 Shriners Circus at www.ShrinersCircus.com. Parking is free.

About The Aleppo Shriners Circus

The Aleppo Shriners Circus began in 1951 and is the organization's primary fundraiser to benefit the Aleppo Shriners Auditorium in Wilmington. The Aleppo Shriners are one of 200 chapters worldwide. The Shrine is best known for its colorful parades, its distinctive red fez, and its official philanthropy, the Shriners Hospitals for Children, which is often called "the heart and soul of the Shrine."

Learn more at www.ShrinersCircus.com.

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Sign, sign,
everywhere a sign...

An employee of MDR Construction affixes the "No Turn On Red" signage to the newly installed traffic signal on Woburn Street at Lowell Street (Rt. 129). The entire intersection in Wilmington was revamped recently. (Joe Brown photo)

Board votes to close and sign warrant

ARTICLES FROM PAGE 1

was listed on one page by department and project including amounts and the sources. The total cost proposed was over \$11 million.

Article seven would provide money for PEG Access. Articles eight and nine proposed money to be set aside for the 4th of July, Memorial Day, and Veterans' Day ceremonies. Article 11 would put \$4,500 toward the compost bin and \$200,000 for the subsurface sewage revolving fund.

Article 12 would set up a revolving fund for fees for the use of the high school field in order to pay contractually required overtime. Article 13 would set aside over \$3 million for the sewer division. Article 14 would transfer \$1 million into the OPEB trust, and arti-

cle 15 would transfer \$3 million to capital stabilization.

Where previously Slagle proposed a new retirement stabilization fund, article 16 was now to move \$1.5 million into an existing fund for the same purpose which he said has \$3.7 million already.

Article 18 would involve the Water Department taking on a debt of \$5.5 million to replace a water main. Article 19 proposed \$1.2 million for the Industrial Way sewer pump station.

Slagle provided that article 21 regarded the purchasing of Sciarappa Farms, but he didn't have the number at this moment as it was currently being appraised. However, articles 22 and 23 were related to the easement for the fire substation and the abandoned rail right of way.

He didn't anticipate those requiring a large amount of money.

Chair Greg Bendel asked if the number would be available prior to the meeting, which Slagle confirmed.

Another change from the initial warrant article was that instead of proposing the elimination of random draw, article 25 would allow the town moderator greater control over articles reasonably related to be taken up in order.

The board members asked which articles would be submitted in the consent agenda. Slagle said that this would be announced ahead of the meeting and determined through discussion between the town moderator and the chair.

Bendel also reminded the other board members that they typically

assigned each of them a few articles to read at the meeting. Slagle confirmed that they would follow the same process this year and set assignments in advance.

The last articles were the Planning Board articles on bylaw language for the floodplain, prohibiting short-term rentals, accessory dwelling units, and transferring parcels to the care of the Conservation Commission.

Articles submitted by the Commission on Disabilities and the Historical Commission pertained to the naming of a conference room in the new town hall for Dee Phyllis Genetti and demolition delay. Two petitioned articles proposed limiting elected officers to two consecutive terms and rezoning a parcel from R-20 to general business.

Bendel asked the town manager to explain how the annual Town Meeting and special Town Meeting would both take place. Slagle answered that the moderator would open Town Meeting and immediately recess it, and then they would open the special Town Meeting and take up those two articles by random draw. Once the special Town Meeting concludes, they would re-open the annual Town Meeting beginning with article one.

The articles for the special Town Meeting proposed the creation of an MBTA Communities multi-family as of right overlay district and adding that district to the inclusionary zoning bylaw.

Bendel added that the Finance Committee and Planning Board would meet to discuss each article the following week

and then make their recommendations. He also mentioned that the recommendations would be included in the warrant that's distributed to residents via mail, in person at the meeting and posted on the town's website.

Kevin Caira asked why they were proposing the creation of an entirely new inclusionary zoning bylaw section instead of adding the multi-family zoning district, and Slagle answered that this was the easiest way to incorporate the requirements of the MBTA zoning regulation.

The board later voted to close and sign the warrants for both the annual and special town meetings. There was one vote against closing and signing the special Town Meeting warrant from Masselli, but the motion still passed.

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